## Temporary blip in FY30 journey

#### Domestic bioenergy segment to take a hit for the next 6-8 months

The government has directed all sugar mills and distilleries not to use sugarcane juice and sugar syrup for ethanol production during ESY 2023-24 (ethanol Supply Year starts in November) with immediate effect. This is due to low rainfall in sugarcane-producing states, raising concerns on adequate sugar output. However, the supply of ethanol from existing offers received by OMC from B-heavy molasses is set to continue. Praj Industries' (PRJ IN) 75% of orderbook is from the bioenergy segment, which comprises orders for setting up domestic 1G ethanol plants. However, 60-70% of these orders can alternately use starchy feedstock; nonetheless, a slowdown is inevitable, in our view. New domestic order inflow also could slow for the next 6-8 months until clarity emerges for the next ESY 2024-25. International order inflow and execution could be supportive.

#### 2.5x revenue by FY30 with higher exports mix

Our analysis indicates 2.5x revenue growth opportunity by FY30 (vs guidance of 3.0x), led by the engineering segment on the back of a 4.0x rise in manufacturing capacity (targeted to commission the Mangaluru plant by Q4FY24), leading to a shift in revenue toward non-bioenergy to 40% from 25% currently. Since most of this modularized engineering solutions would be exports-oriented with a higher margin potential, we expect EBITDA margin to improve to 12% from 9% in FY23E.

#### Valuation: retain Accumulate with a lower TP of INR 575

With a 60% market share in the domestic bioenergy segment, international presence across 100 countries with 400 patents and four decades of experience, PRJ offers unique technology solutions for a sustainable green future with a potential of multi-year growth opportunity. We believe near-term correction can be a buying opportunity. In the bioenergy segment (80% of revenue), we expect revenue growth to be muted until FY25, owing to a slowdown in order inflows and execution. However, from FY26, growth would pick up meaningfully on the back of robust opportunity pipeline. We revise down our earnings by 10% for FY24E, 22% for FY25E and 10% for FY26E to factor in the recent government ban. We retain Accumulate with a lower TP of INR 575 from INR 596 based on 30x (from 28x) FY26E P/E, as near-term suppressed earnings are unable to capture future growth potential.

## Rating: Accumulate

#### Target Price: INR 575 Upside: 6%

CMP: INR 545 (as on 8 December 2023)

#### Key data

1 USD= INR 83.4	
Face Value (INR)	2
Daily Volume (3M NSE Avg)	1,531,416
Mkt Cap (INR bn/USD mn)	100/1,201
Current / Dil Shares O/S (mn)	184/184
Bloomberg /Reuters Code	PRJ IN/PRAJ.BO
-5	

Note: \*as on 8 December 2023: Source: Bloomberg

#### Price & Volume



Source: Bloomberg

Price performance (	%)	3M	6M	12M
Source: BSE				
General Public	33.7	33.4	32.5	32.2
Other Investor	8.1	8.1	8.0	6.9
Institutional Investor	25.3	25.7	26.7	28.1
Promoter	32.9	32.8	32.8	32.8
Shareholding (%)	Q3FY23 (	Q4FY23 C	01FY24 (	02FY24

Price performance (%)	ЗM	6M	12M
Nifty	5.8	12.5	12.7
Praj Industries	5.1	38.1	42.4

Source: Bloomberg

### Key financials

ricey milen	Telens										
YE	Revenue	YoY	EBITDA	EBITDA	Adj PAT	YoY	Fully DEPS	RoE	RoCE	P/E	EV/EBITDA
March	(INR mn)	(%)	(INR mn)	margin (%)	(INR mn)	(%)	(INR)	(%)	(%)	(X)	(X)
FY23	35,280	50.6	3,078	8.7	2,398	59.6	13.1	24.1	31.3	41.7	30.6
FY24E	35,246	(0.1)	3,348	9.5	2,512	4.7	13.7	21.2	27.5	39.9	27.7
FY25E	38,299	8.7	3,734	9.7	2,833	12.8	15.4	20.1	25.8	35.3	24.4
FY26E	46,163	20.5	4,632	10.0	3,521	24.3	19.2	20.8	26.9	28.4	19.4

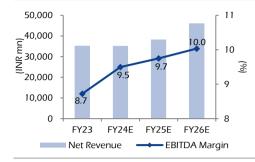
Note: pricing as on 8 December 2023; Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

Ankita Shah • ankita.shah@elaracapital.com • +91 22 6164 8516 Ash Shah • ash.shah@elaracapital.com • +91 22 6164 8500 Elara Securities (India) Private Limited

# **Consolidated financials (YE March)**

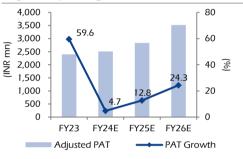
Consolidated Infanci	יון נוה		CHJ	
Income Statement (INR mn)	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Net Revenue	35,280	35,246	38,299	46,163
EBITDA	3,078	3,348	3,734	4,632
Add:- Non operating Income	458	368	383	399
OPBIDTA	3,536	3,717	4,117	5,031
Less :- Depreciation & Amortization	302	344	345	347
EBIT	3,234	3,373	3,772	4,684
Less:- Interest Expenses	46	46	20	20
PBT	3,187	3,327	3,752	4,664
Less :- Taxes	789	815	919	1,143
Reported PAT	2,398	2,512	2,833	3,521
Adjusted PAT	2,398	2,512	2,833	3,521
Balance Sheet (INR mn)	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Share Capital	367	367	367	367
Reserves	10,413	12,539	14,987	18,123
Minority Interest	1	1	1	1
Net worth	10,781	12,907	15,355	18,491
Deferred Tax (Net)	(111)	(111)	(111)	(111)
Other non-current liabilities	401	461	491	546
Total Liabilities	11,070	13,257	15,734	18,926
Net Block	2,542	2,722	2,875	2,716
Add:- Capital work in progress	69	69	69	69
Investments	5,429	5,658	5,899	6,152
Cash & bank balances	1,448	2,519	3,929	5,025
Net Working Capital	782	1,486	2,156	4,154
Other Assets	799	803	807	811
Total Assets	11,070	13,257	15,734	18,926
Cash Flow Statement (INR mn)	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Cash profit adjusted for non-cash items	3,180	3,348	3,734	4,632
Add/Less:- Working Capital changes	(1,457)	(1,469)	(1,577)	(3,103)
Operating Cash Flow	1,723	1,879	2,157	1,529
Less:- Capex	655	524	498	189
Free Cash Flow	1,068	1,356	1,659	1,341
Financing Cash Flow	(710)	(425)	(391)	(391)
Investing Cash Flow	(461)	139	143	146
Net change in Cash	(102)	1,070	1,410	1,096
Ratio Analysis	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Income Statement Ratios(%)				
Revenue Growth	50.6	(0.1)	8.7	20.5
EBITDA Growth	58.8	8.8	11.5	24.1
PAT Growth	59.6	4.7	12.8	24.3
EBITDA Margin	8.7	9.5	9.7	10.0
Net Margin	6.8	7.1	7.4	7.6
Return & Liquidity Ratios (%)				
Net Debt/Equity (x)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)
ROE (%)	24.1	21.2	20.1	20.8
ROCE (%)	31.3	27.5	25.8	26.9
Per Share data & Valuation Ratios	51.5	27.5	25.0	20.7
Reported EPS (INR)	13.1	13.7	15.4	19.2
Adjusted EPS (INR)	13.1	13.7	15.4	19.2
EPS growth (%)	59.6	4.7	12.8	24.3
DPS (INR)	4.2	2.1	2.1	24.5
P/E (x)	41.7	39.9	35.3	28.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	30.6	27.7	24.4	19.4
EV/Editor (x) EV/Sales (x)	2.7	27.7	24.4	19.4
Price/Book (x)	2.7 9.3	2.8 7.8	6.5	5.4
Dividend Yield (%)	9.5 0.8	7.8 0.4	0.4	0.4
	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4

#### Revenue & margin growth trend



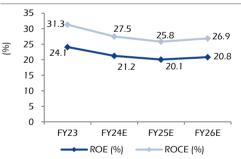
Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

#### Adjusted profit growth trend



Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

#### **Return ratios**

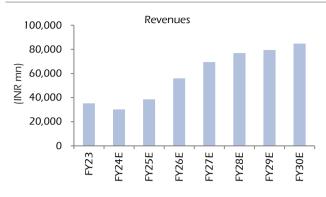


Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

Note: pricing as on 8 December 2023; Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

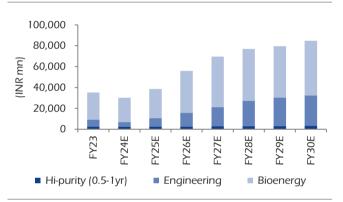
## Journey 2030

Exhibit 1: 2.5x revenue growth by FY30

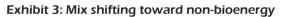


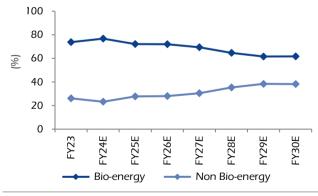
Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

# Exhibit 2: Engineering segment to drive revenue growth until FY30



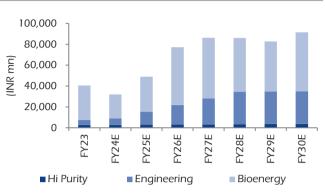
Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate





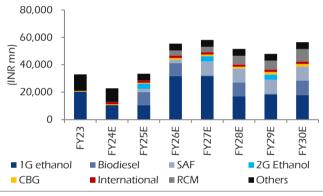
Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

Exhibit 4: New capacity addition in Engineering segment to be a game-changer

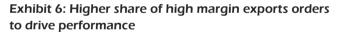


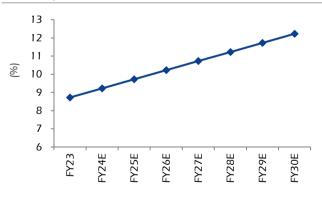
Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

# Exhibit 5: Favorable government policy environment key for long term growth



Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate





Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

# **Elara**Capital

### **Bioenergy opportunity**

#### 1G Ethanol

- For the EBP-20 program, INR 4-5bn liters of order awarding is pending, which is likely to be take place in the near term. The next target could be EBP-27, which will require incremental INR 7bn-liter capacity
- Government targets blending 5% biodiesel in diesel sales by FY30

#### 2G Ethanol

 It has commissioned the first 2G ethanol bio-refinery at IOCL Panipat plant for INR 9bn. The scope is to reduce cost by 25-30% to improve economic viability of the project

#### **Compressed biogas**

- The industry ecosystem is gradually building up and large plans are being announced by public sector companies and large conglomerates
- To give a boost to the compressed biogas (CBG) sector and to accelerate the Waste to Wealth & Circular Economy, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) recently announced target to establish 15,000 tonnes per day biogas plants by FY26
- Reliance Industries also has outlined plans to establish 100 CBG plants in the next five years
- International opportunity for RNG (renewable natural gas) is developing

#### Sustainable aviation fuel

- India has set a target of 1% blending in sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) by FY27 and 2% by FY28
- The US has a SAF mandate at 10% by FY30 and the EU at 6%
- The US targets 3.0bn gallons of SAF by FY30 vs the current 15.8mn gallons
- Also, as per the Inflation Reduction ACT (IRA) carbon emissions in existing 200 ethanol plants is set to reduce from 60% to 40%

#### Renewable chemicals and materials

- The first pilot project to develop bio-plastics from sugar feedstock is set to be ready by Q4FY24
- Focus is on the domestic markets currently and enquiries are gaining traction

### Non-bioenergy opportunity

#### Engineering and energy transition & climate change

- Energy giants are investing in blue and green hydrogen, green ammonia and waste-to-energy projects leading to an increase in demand for modularized engineering solutions
- New manufacturing facility at Mangaluru is set to increase PRJ capacity by 3-4x

#### Brewery and beverage

 The markets are bouncing back after subdued performance for the past three years and strong leadership in the domestic markets gives an edge

#### Zero liquid discharge

 Growing awareness of water management is opening up opportunities for industrial effluent treatment, water recycling and Zero Liquid Discharge

#### **Hi-purity**

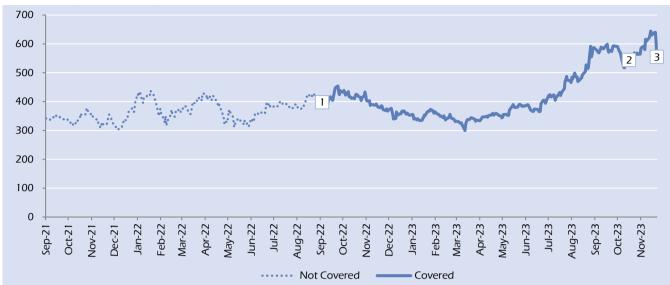
- Semiconductor capacity creation is set to drive demand for high purity water solutions
- There is a growing demand for high-capacity fermenters for biopharma

		Old			New			Change	
(INR mn)	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E	FY25E
Revenue	39,726	49,818	51,653	35,246	38,299	46,163	(11.3)	(23.1)	(10.6)
EBITDA	3,774	4,857	5,183	3,348	3,734	4,632	(11.3)	(23.1)	(10.6)
PAT	2,814	3,655	3,908	2,512	2,833	3,521	(10.7)	(22.5)	(9.9)
Target price (INR)			596			575			(3.5)
P/E (x)			28			30			7.1

#### **Exhibit 7: Change in estimates**

Source: Elara Securities Estimates

# **Coverage History**



	Date	Rating	Target Price	<b>Closing Price</b>
1	19-Sep-2022	Buy	INR 515	INR 388
2	1-Nov-2023	Accumulate	INR 596	INR 534
3	8-Dec-2023	Accumulate	INR 575	INR 545

# **Guide to Research Rating**

BUY	Absolute Return >+20%
ACCUMULATE	Absolute Return +5% to +20%
REDUCE	Absolute Return -5% to +5%
SELL	Absolute Return < -5%



#### **Disclosures & Confidentiality for non U.S. Investors**

The Note is based on our estimates and is being provided to you (herein referred to as the "Recipient") only for information purposes. The sole purpose of this Note is to provide preliminary information on the business activities of the company and the projected financial statements in order to assist the recipient in understanding / evaluating the Proposal. Nothing in this document should be construed as an advice to buy or sell or solicitation to buy or sell the securities of companies referred to in this document. Each recipient of this document should make such investigations as it deems necessary to arrive at an independent evaluation of an investment in the securities of companies referred to in this document (including the merits and risks involved) and should consult its own advisors to determine the merits and risks of such an investment. Nevertheless, Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or any of its affiliates is committed to provide independent and transparent recommendation to its client and would be happy to provide any information in response to specific client queries. Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or any of its affiliates have not independently verified all the information given in this Note and expressly disclaim all liability for any errors and/or omissions, representations or warranties, expressed or implied as contained in this Note. The user assumes the entire risk of any use made of this information. Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or any of its affiliates, their directors and the employees may from time to time, effect or have effected an own account transaction in or deal as principal or agent in or for the securities mentioned in this document. They may perform or seek to perform investment banking or other services for or solicit investment banking or other business from any company referred to in this Note. Each of these entities functions as a separate, distinct and independent of each other. This Note is strictly confidential and is being furnished to you solely for your information. This Note should not be reproduced or redistributed or passed on directly or indirectly in any form to any other person or published, copied, in whole or in part, for any purpose. This Note is not directed or intended for distribution to, or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction, where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law, regulation or which would subject Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or any of its affiliates to any registration or licensing requirements within such jurisdiction. The distribution of this document in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law, and persons in whose possession this document comes, should inform themselves about and observe, any such restrictions. Upon request, the Recipient will promptly return all material received from the company and/or the Advisors without retaining any copies thereof. The Information given in this document is as of the date of this report and there can be no assurance that future results or events will be consistent with this information. This Information is subject to change without any prior notice. Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or any of its affiliates reserves the right to make modifications and alterations to this statement as may be required from time to time. However, Elara Securities (India) Private Limited is under no obligation to update or keep the information current. Neither Elara Securities (India) Private Limited nor any of its affiliates, group companies, directors, employees, agents or representatives shall be liable for any damages whether direct, indirect, special or consequential including lost revenue or lost profits that may arise from or in connection with the use of the information. This Note should not be deemed an indication of the state of affairs of the company nor shall it constitute an indication that there has been no change in the business or state of affairs of the company since the date of publication of this Note. The disclosures of interest statements incorporated in this document are provided solely to enhance the transparency and should not be treated as endorsement of the views expressed in the report. Elara Securities (India) Private Limited generally prohibits its analysts, persons reporting to analysts and their family members from maintaining a financial interest in the securities or derivatives of any companies that the analysts cover. The analyst for this report certifies that all of the views expressed in this report accurately reflect his or her personal views about the subject company or companies and its or their securities, and no part of his or her compensation was, is or will be, directly or indirectly related to specific recommendations or views expressed in this report.

Any clarifications / queries on the proposal as well as any future communication regarding the proposal should be addressed to Elara Securities (India) Private Limited. It is important to note that any dispute with respect to this research report, would not have access to stock exchange investor redressal forum or arbitration mechanism.

Elara Securities (India) Private Limited was incorporated in July 2007 as a subsidiary of Elara Capital (India) Private Limited.

Elara Securities (India) Private Limited is a SEBI registered Stock Broker in the Capital Market and Futures & Options Segments of National Stock Exchange of India Limited [NSE], in the Capital Market Segment of BSE Limited [BSE] and a Depository Participant registered with Central Depository Services (India) Limited [CDSL].

Elara Securities (India) Private Limited's business, amongst other things, is to undertake all associated activities relating to its broking business.

The activities of Elara Securities (India) Private Limited were neither suspended nor has it defaulted with any stock exchange authority with whom it is registered in last five years. However, during the routine course of inspection and based on observations, the exchanges have issued advise letters or levied minor penalties on Elara Securities (India) Private Limited for minor operational deviations in certain cases. Elara Securities (India) Private Limited has not been debarred from doing business by any Stock Exchange / SEBI or any other authorities; nor has the certificate of registration been cancelled by SEBI at any point of time.

Elara Securities (India) Private Limited offers research services primarily to institutional investors and their employees, directors, fund managers, advisors who are registered or proposed to be registered.

Details of Associates of Elara Securities (India) Private Limited are available on group company website www.elaracapital.com

Elara Securities (India) Private Limited is maintaining arms-length relationship with its associate entities.

Research Analyst or his/her relative(s) may have financial interest in the subject company. Elara Securities (India) Private Limited does not have any financial interest in the subject company, whereas its associate entities may have financial interest. Research Analyst or his/her relative does not have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities of the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of Research Report. Elara Securities (India) Private Limited does not have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities of the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of Research Report. Associate entities of Elara Securities (India) Private Limited may have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities (India) Private Limited may have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities (India) Private Limited may have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities (India) Private Limited may have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities (India) Private Limited may have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities (India) Private Limited may have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities of the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of Research Report. Research Analyst or his/her relative or Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or its associate entities does not have any other material conflict of interest at the time of publication of the Research Report.

Research Analyst or his/her relative(s) has not served as an officer, director or employee of the subject company.

Research analyst or Elara Securities (India) Private Limited have not received any compensation from the subject company in the past twelve months. Associate entities of Elara Securities (India) Private Limited may have received compensation from the subject company in the past twelve months. Research analyst or Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or its associate entities have not managed or co-managed public offering of securities for the subject company in the past twelve months. Research analyst or Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or its associate entities do ris associates have not received any compensation for investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the subject company in the past twelve months. Research analyst or Elara Securities (India) Private Limited or its associate entities may have received any compensation for products or services other than investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the subject company or third party in connection with the Research Report in the past twelve months.

#### **Disclaimer & Standard warning**

Registration granted by SEBI and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors.

Investment in securities market are subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing.

#### **Disclaimer for non U.S. Investors**

The information contained in this note is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity. Although we endeavor to provide accurate and timely information, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. No one should act on such information without appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of the particular situation.

#### **Disclosures for U.S. Investors**

The research analyst did not receive compensation from Praj Industries Limited.

Elara Capital Inc.'s affiliate did not manage an offering for Praj Industries Limited.

Elara Capital Inc.'s affiliate did not receive compensation from Praj Industries Limited in the last 12 months.

Elara Capital Inc.'s affiliate does not expect to receive compensation from Praj Industries Limited in the next 3 months.

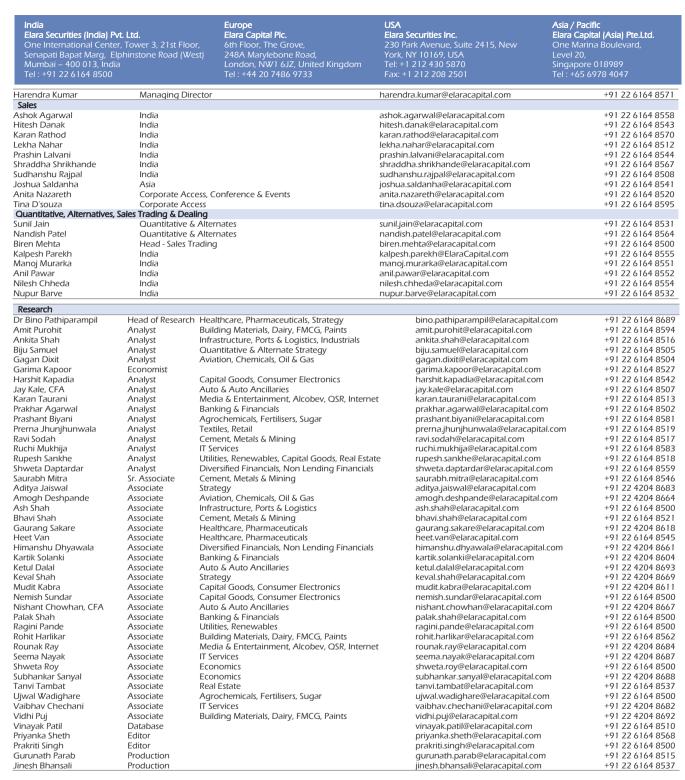
#### **Disclaimer for U.S. Investors**

This material is based upon information that we consider to be reliable, but Elara Capital Inc. does not warrant its completeness, accuracy or adequacy and it should not be relied upon as such.

This material is not intended as an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any security or other financial instrument. Securities, financial instruments or strategies mentioned herein may not be suitable for all investors. Any opinions expressed herein are given in good faith, are subject to change without notice, and are only correct as of the stated date of their issue. Prices, values or income from any securities or investments mentioned in this report may fall against the interests of the investor and the investor may get back less than the amount invested. Where an investment is described as being likely to yield income, please note that the amount of income that the investor will receive from such an investment may fluctuate. Where an investment or security is denominated in a different currency to the investor's currency of reference, changes in rates of exchange may have an adverse effect on the value, price or income of or from that investment to the investor. The information contained in this report does not constitute advice on the tax consequences of making any particular investment decision. This material does not take into account your particular investment objectives, financial situations or needs and is not intended as a recommendation of particular securities, financial instruments or suitable for your particular circumstances and, if necessary, seek professional advice.

Certain statements in this report, including any financial projections, may constitute "forward-looking statements." These "forward-looking statements" are not guarantees of future performance and are based on numerous current assumptions that are subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies. Actual future performance could differ materially from these "forward-looking statements" and financial information.

## Elara Securities (India) Private Limited



Access our reports on Bloomberg: Type RESP ESEC <GO>

Also available on Thomson & Reuters

E araCapital

Elara Securities (India) Private Limited Registered Office Address: One International Center, Tower 3, 21st Floor, Senapati Bapat Marg, Elphinstone Road (West) Mumbai – 400 013, India Tel : +91 22 6164 8500 CIN: U74992MH2007PTC172297 | SEBI Research Analyst Registration No.: INH000000933 Member of BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited | SEBI REGN. NO.: INZ 000 238236 Member of Central Depository Services (India) Limited | SEBI REGN. NO.: IN-DP-370-2018 Investor Grievance Email ID: investor.gitevances@elaracapital.com - Tel. +91 22 6164 8509 Compliance Officer: Mr. Anand Rao - Email ID: anand.rao@elaracapial.com