

# Castrol (India)

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Estimate change | ↔ |
| TP change       | ↔ |
| Rating change   | ↔ |

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Bloomberg             | CSTRL IN    |
| Equity Shares (m)     | 989         |
| M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)   | 188.3 / 2.1 |
| 52-Week Range (INR)   | 247 / 159   |
| 1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%) | -8/-9/-17   |
| 12M Avg Val (INR M)   | 891         |

## Financials & Valuations (INR b)

| Y/E Dec     | CY25E | CY26E | CY27E |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Sales       | 56.8  | 58.7  | 62.7  |
| EBITDA      | 13.2  | 13.6  | 14.9  |
| PAT         | 9.5   | 9.6   | 10.6  |
| EPS (INR)   | 9.6   | 9.7   | 10.7  |
| EPS Gr. (%) | 2.7   | 1.1   | 10.2  |
| BV/Sh.(INR) | 25.0  | 26.9  | 29.1  |

## Ratios

|            |      |      |      |
|------------|------|------|------|
| Net D:E    | -0.6 | -0.6 | -0.6 |
| RoE (%)    | 40.1 | 37.5 | 38.3 |
| RoCE (%)   | 40.4 | 37.8 | 38.6 |
| Payout (%) | 80.0 | 80.0 | 80.0 |

## Valuations

|                |      |      |      |
|----------------|------|------|------|
| P/E (x)        | 19.7 | 19.5 | 17.7 |
| P/BV (x)       | 7.6  | 7.1  | 6.5  |
| EV/EBITDA (x)  | 13.1 | 12.6 | 11.4 |
| Div. Yield (%) | 4.1  | 4.1  | 4.5  |
| FCF Yield (%)  | 5.0  | 5.1  | 5.6  |

## Shareholding pattern (%)

| As of    | Sep-25 | Jun-25 | Sep-24 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Promoter | 51.0   | 51.0   | 51.0   |
| DII      | 15.0   | 14.9   | 15.2   |
| FII      | 10.3   | 10.3   | 10.0   |
| Others   | 23.8   | 23.8   | 23.8   |

FII includes depository receipts

**CMP: INR190** **TP: INR260 (+37%)** **Buy**

## Volume growth remains strong

- Castrol (CSTRL)'s 3QCY25 performance was in line. EBITDA margin expanded 150bp YoY/30bp QoQ. Volumes were in line at 59m liters (up 7% YoY).
- Management highlighted that it remains focused on brand building, widening the distribution network, and launching new products, all of which we believe will drive volume growth and market share expansion.
- CSTRL has always enjoyed a strong brand legacy, and we are confident in its ability to maintain profitability through an improved product mix, stringent cost-control measures, and the launch of advanced products that command better realization. **We reiterate our BUY rating with a TP of INR260.**

## Stable 3Q performance

- CSTRL's 3QCY25 revenue came in at ~INR13.6b, in line (up 6% YoY).
- EBITDA came in above our estimate at INR3.2b (up 13% YoY).
- EBITDA margin expanded 150bp YoY/30bp QoQ.
- Gross margin expanded 200bp YoY/140bp QoQ.
- PAT also came in 7% above our estimate at INR2.3b.
- Other income came in above our estimate.
- **Other key highlights:**
- **CSTRL expanded its footprint and strengthened market presence:**
- It expanded national network to ~1,50,000 outlets across India.
- Service network now encompasses over 750 Castrol Auto Service centers, around 33,000 independent bike workshops, and about 11,500 multi-brand workshops.
- With nearly 40,000 rural outlets and 500 Rural Express points, the company continues to deliver consistent double-digit growth in rural markets.
- The full Auto Care product range is now accessible via e-commerce platforms, modern trade channels, and more than 67,000 physical outlets nationwide.
- Signed an MoU with VinFast Auto India to provide reliable and easily accessible after-sales support for EV customers through select Castrol Auto Service workshops.
- **CSTRL is building momentum through new launches and localization:**
- Expanded the Auto Care portfolio with the introduction of Castrol All-in-One Helmet Cleaner.
- Localization of high transmission EV fluids and industrial products Alusol SL 41 XBB and NPI-Spheerol SM 00.
- Upgraded Castrol Magnatec to align with the latest API SQ specifications.
- **The company is driving brand preference:**
- Conducted large-scale city activations across key markets, engaging over 5m biking enthusiasts under the Castrol POWER1 brand.
- The 'SuperDRIVE with Castrol EDGE' initiative enabled around 10,000 consumer trials across 10 major cities.
- The Super Mechanic Saptah program garnered participation from more than 5,000 mechanics nationwide.

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**Investors are advised to refer through important disclosures made at the last page of the Research Report.**

Motilal Oswal research is available on [www.motilaloswal.com/Institutional-Equities](http://www.motilaloswal.com/Institutional-Equities), Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, Factset and S&P Capital.

### Key takeaways from the management commentary

- Volume stood at 59m lit (up 7% QoQ)
- Volume split in segments: Personal mobility/CV/Industrial segment – 48-50%/38-40 %/13-14%
- Segment-wise growth in volumes: Personal mobility/CV/Industrial segment – 6%/8%/double-digit (%) growth.
- The company deals in industrial lubricants such as high-performance lubricants, rust preventives, and metalworking lubricants. These contribute around 12 to 14% volumes.
- About 50-55% of the base oil is imported, while the rest is sourced domestically.

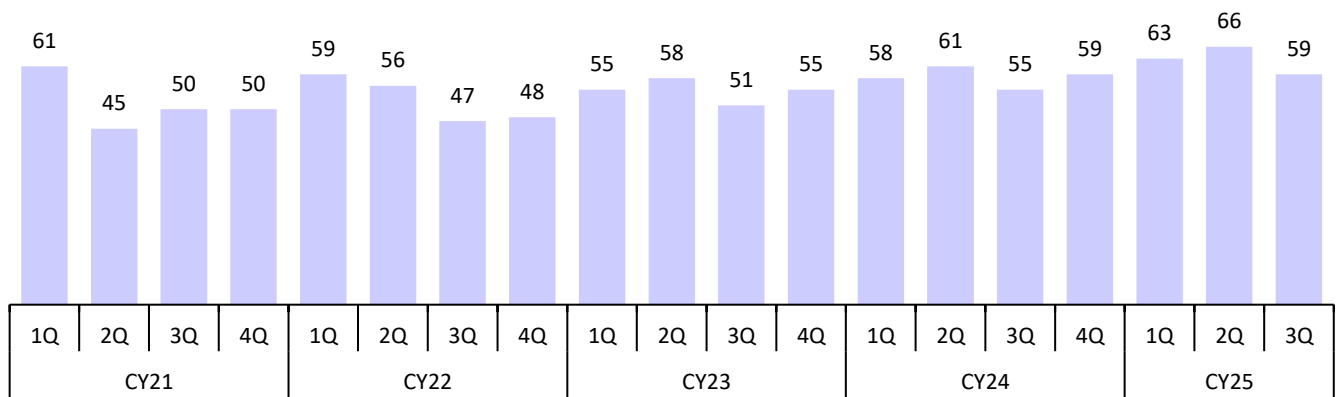
### Valuation and view

- Our EBITDA margin assumptions are already within the company's guided range of 22-25%.
- We value the stock at 26x Dec'27 EPS to arrive at our TP of INR260. **We reiterate our BUY rating.**

### Quarterly Performance

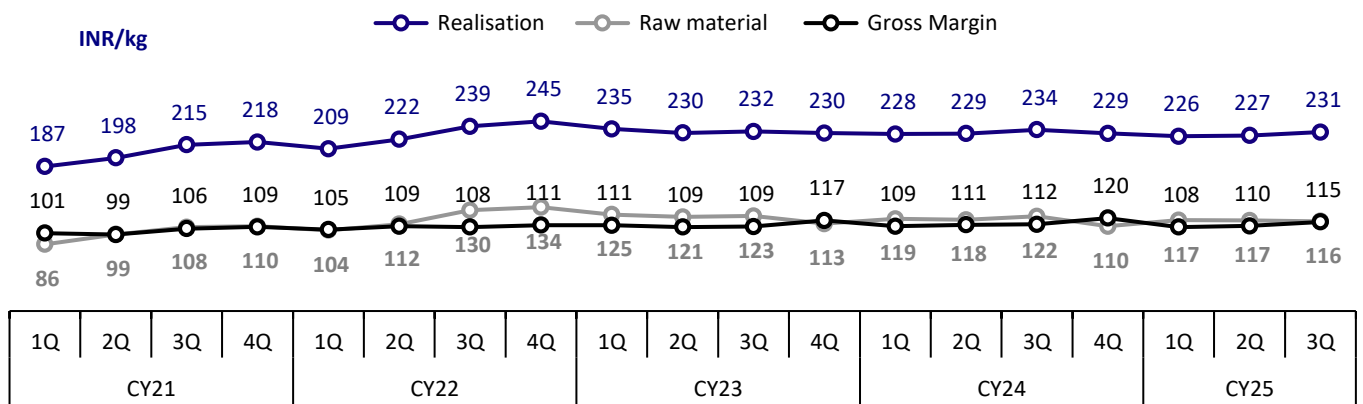
| Y/E December                         | CY24   |        |        |        | CY25   |        |        |        | CY24   | CY25E  | CY25   | Var. |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|
|                                      | 1Q     | 2Q     | 3Q     | 4Q     | 1Q     | 2Q     | 3QE    | 4QE    |        |        | 3QE    | (%)  |
| Volume (m litres)                    | 58.0   | 61.0   | 55.0   | 59.0   | 63.0   | 66.0   | 59.0   | 62.5   | 233.0  | 250.5  | 58.3   | 1%   |
| Realization                          | 228    | 229    | 234    | 229    | 226    | 227    | 231    | 223    | 230    | 227    | 227    | 2%   |
| Net Sales                            | 13,252 | 13,975 | 12,882 | 13,539 | 14,220 | 14,968 | 13,628 | 13,972 | 53,649 | 56,788 | 13,218 | 3%   |
| YoY Change (%)                       | 2.4    | 4.8    | 8.9    | 7.1    | 7.3    | 7.1    | 5.8    | 3.2    | 5.7    | 5.9    | 2.6    |      |
| EBITDA                               | 2,937  | 3,224  | 2,861  | 3,759  | 3,074  | 3,495  | 3,228  | 3,408  | 12,782 | 13,205 | 3,017  | 7%   |
| YoY Change (%)                       | -0.4   | 4.1    | 6.5    | 14.2   | 4.6    | 8.4    | 12.8   | -9.3   | 6.3    | 3.3    | 5.4    |      |
| Margin (%)                           | 22.2   | 23.1   | 22.2   | 27.8   | 21.6   | 23.4   | 23.7   | 24.4   | 23.8   | 23.3   | 22.8   | 4%   |
| Depreciation                         | 237    | 261    | 245    | 254    | 246    | 266    | 252    | 260    | 998    | 1,020  | 251    |      |
| Interest                             | 21     | 26     | 20     | 27     | 23     | 26     | 21     | 28     | 94     | 98     | 21     |      |
| Other Income                         | 241    | 204    | 209    | 232    | 322    | 93     | 123    | 106    | 886    | 644    | 94     |      |
| PBT                                  | 2,921  | 3,142  | 2,805  | 3,709  | 3,127  | 3,295  | 3,079  | 3,226  | 12,576 | 12,731 | 2,839  | 8%   |
| Tax                                  | 758    | 820    | 730    | 995    | 793    | 855    | 801    | 759    | 3,304  | 3,208  | 715    |      |
| Rate (%)                             | 26.0   | 26.1   | 26.0   | 26.8   | 25.3   | 26.0   | 26.0   | 23.5   | 26.3   | 25.2   | 25.2   |      |
| PAT                                  | 2,162  | 2,322  | 2,074  | 2,714  | 2,335  | 2,440  | 2,278  | 2,467  | 9,272  | 9,522  | 2,124  | 7%   |
| YoY Change (%)                       | 6.8    | 3.1    | 6.7    | 12.2   | 8.0    | 5.1    | 9.8    | -9.1   | 7.3    | 2.7    | 2.4    |      |
| <b>Operational Details (INR/lit)</b> |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |      |
| Volume (m litres)                    | 58.0   | 61.0   | 55.0   | 59.0   | 63.0   | 66.0   | 59.0   | 62.5   | 233.0  | 250.5  | 58.3   | 1%   |
| Realization                          | 228.5  | 229.1  | 234.2  | 229.5  | 225.7  | 226.8  | 231.0  | 223.4  | 230.3  | 226.7  | 226.7  | 2%   |
| Gross margin                         | 109.4  | 111.3  | 111.9  | 120.0  | 108.5  | 109.9  | 115.1  | 107.1  | 113.2  | 110.1  | 110.1  | 5%   |
| EBITDA                               | 50.6   | 52.9   | 52.0   | 63.7   | 48.8   | 53.0   | 54.7   | 54.6   | 54.9   | 52.7   | 51.7   | 6%   |
| PAT                                  | 37.3   | 38.1   | 37.7   | 46.0   | 37.1   | 37.0   | 38.6   | 39.5   | 39.8   | 38.0   | 36.4   | 6%   |

**Exhibit 1: Volume stood at 59m liters (up 7% YoY)**



Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 2: Realization stood at INR231/liter**



Source: Company, MOFSL



## Key highlights from the management commentary

### ■ Volumes:

- Volume stood at 59m lit (up 7% QoQ)
- ✓ Volume split in segments: Personal mobility/CV/Industrial segment- 48-50 %/38-40 %/13-14%
- ✓ Segment-wise growth in volumes: Personal mobility/CV/Industrial segment - 6%/8%/double digit growth %
- ✓ The Company deals in industrial lubricants such as high-performance lubricants, rust preventives, and metalworking lubricants. These contribute around 12 to 14% volumes.

### ■ Raw material costs:

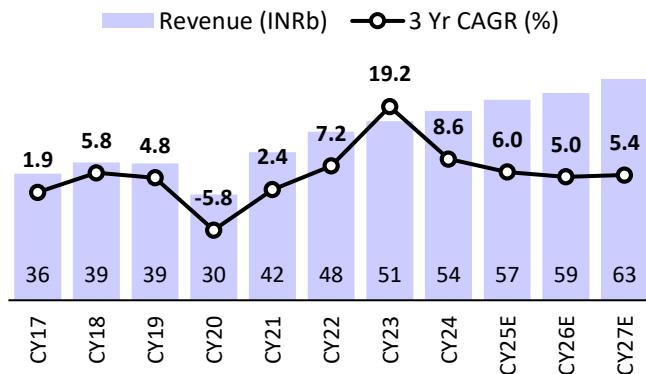
- Volume grew 7-8% in the quarter, but the cost of goods sold has only grown 2-3%; this was primarily due to:
- ✓ Optimizing the raw material sourcing, formulation, and the costs incurred at the manufacturing location.
- ✓ Hedge against rupee depreciation.
- Base oil
- ✓ Base oil price has reduced 3.5% YTD.
- ✓ 50-55% of the base oil is imported, while the rest is sourced domestically.

### ■ Others:

- New Launch: Expansion of Auto Care range with the launch of Castrol All-in-One Helmet Cleaner - foam spray solution addressing helmet hygiene for two-wheeler riders.
- Signed a notable MoU with VinFast Auto India to support their foray into India's EV market. Under this agreement, VinFast will leverage Castrol's workshop network to offer reliable and accessible after-sales support for EV customers.
- Leadership transition will not change the current strategic direction
- About 25-30% of the B2C volume comes from the rural outlets.

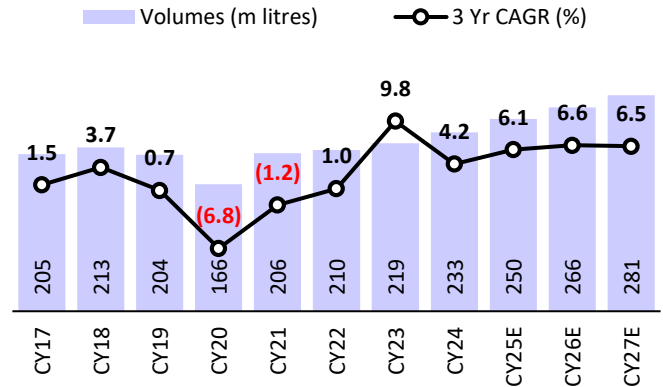
## Story in charts

**Exhibit 3: Revenue to clock a 5.4% CAGR over CY24-27...**



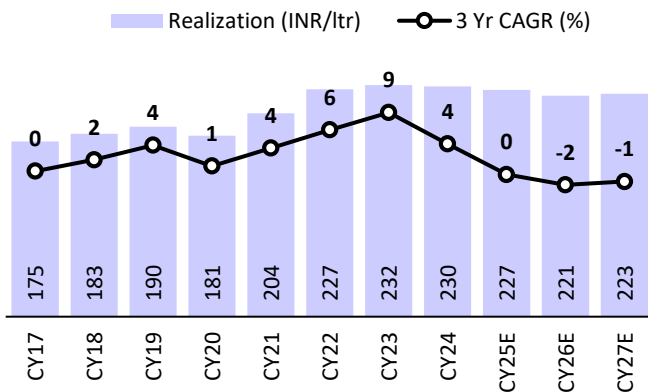
Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 4: ...led by an increase in volumes**



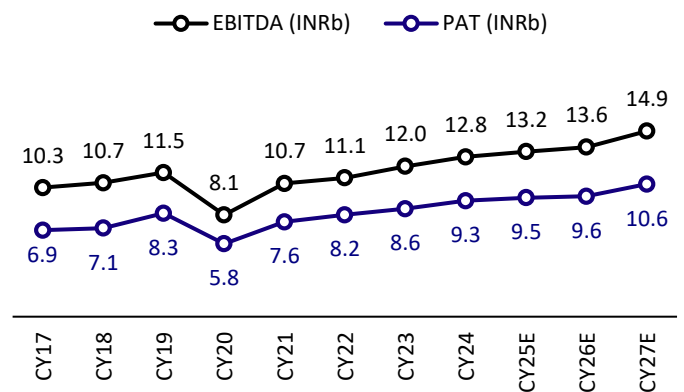
Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 5: Realizations to be ~INR223/lit in CY27...**



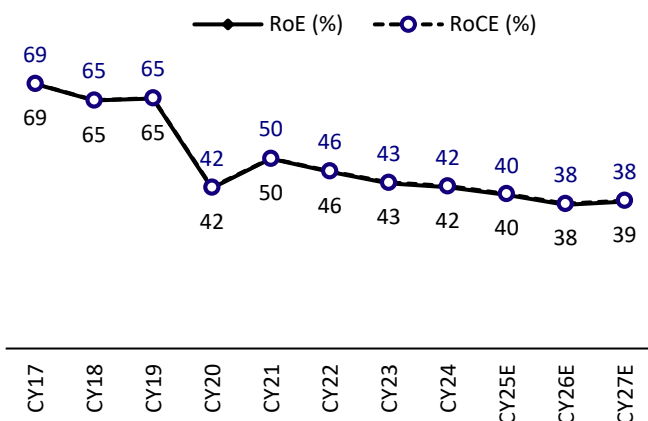
Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 6: ...with EBITDA improving to INR14.9b**



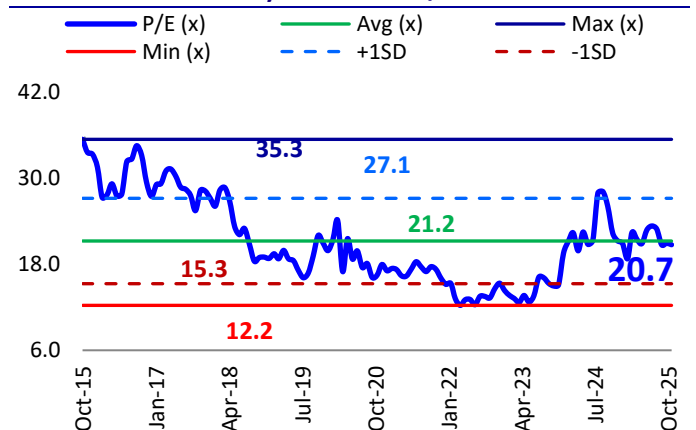
Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 7: Return ratios expected to be around 38%**



Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 8: CSTRL's one-year forward P/E chart**



Source: Company, MOFSL

## Financials and Valuations

### Standalone - Income Statement

(InR m)

| Y/E December            | CY22          | CY23          | CY24          | CY25E         | CY26E         | CY27E         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Income from Operations  | 54,888        | 58,338        | 61,674        | 65,283        | 67,507        | 72,125        |
| Less: Excise Duty       | 7,143         | 7,592         | 8,026         | 8,496         | 8,785         | 9,386         |
| <b>Net sales</b>        | <b>47,745</b> | <b>50,746</b> | <b>53,649</b> | <b>56,788</b> | <b>58,722</b> | <b>62,739</b> |
| Change (%)              | 13.9          | 6.3           | 5.7           | 5.9           | 3.4           | 6.8           |
| <b>Gross Margin</b>     | <b>22,746</b> | <b>24,382</b> | <b>26,370</b> | <b>27,580</b> | <b>27,912</b> | <b>30,137</b> |
| Margin (%)              | 47.6          | 48.0          | 49.2          | 48.6          | 47.5          | 48.0          |
| <b>EBITDA</b>           | <b>11,111</b> | <b>12,024</b> | <b>12,782</b> | <b>13,205</b> | <b>13,564</b> | <b>14,851</b> |
| Margin (%)              | 23.3          | 23.7          | 23.8          | 23.3          | 23.1          | 23.7          |
| Depreciation            | 814           | 924           | 998           | 1,020         | 1,042         | 1,055         |
| <b>EBIT</b>             | <b>10,297</b> | <b>11,100</b> | <b>11,784</b> | <b>12,185</b> | <b>12,521</b> | <b>13,797</b> |
| Interest Charges        | 40            | 75            | 94            | 98            | 103           | 109           |
| Other Income            | 670           | 787           | 886           | 644           | 457           | 500           |
| <b>PBT bef. EO Exp.</b> | <b>10,928</b> | <b>11,811</b> | <b>12,576</b> | <b>12,731</b> | <b>12,875</b> | <b>14,188</b> |
| Income tax              | 2,776         | 3,170         | 3,304         | 3,208         | 3,244         | 3,575         |
| <i>Tax Rate (%)</i>     | <i>25.4</i>   | <i>26.8</i>   | <i>26.3</i>   | <i>25.2</i>   | <i>25.2</i>   | <i>25.2</i>   |
| <b>Reported PAT</b>     | <b>8,152</b>  | <b>8,641</b>  | <b>9,272</b>  | <b>9,522</b>  | <b>9,630</b>  | <b>10,613</b> |
| Change (%)              | 7.5           | 6.0           | 7.3           | 2.7           | 1.1           | 10.2          |
| Margin (%)              | 17.1          | 17.0          | 17.3          | 16.8          | 16.4          | 16.9          |

### Standalone - Balance Sheet

(InR m)

| Y/E December                        | CY22          | CY23          | CY24          | CY25E         | CY26E         | CY27E         |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Equity Share Capital                | 4,946         | 4,946         | 4,946         | 4,946         | 4,946         | 4,946         |
| Total Reserves                      | 13,915        | 16,271        | 17,838        | 19,743        | 21,669        | 23,791        |
| <b>Net Worth</b>                    | <b>18,861</b> | <b>21,217</b> | <b>22,784</b> | <b>24,688</b> | <b>26,614</b> | <b>28,737</b> |
| <b>Capital Employed</b>             | <b>18,861</b> | <b>21,217</b> | <b>22,784</b> | <b>24,688</b> | <b>26,614</b> | <b>28,737</b> |
| Gross Block                         | 8,709         | 9,633         | 10,631        | 11,881        | 13,131        | 14,381        |
| Less: Accum. Deprn.                 | 6,800         | 7,960         | 8,389         | 9,408         | 10,451        | 11,506        |
| <b>Net Fixed Assets</b>             | <b>1,909</b>  | <b>1,673</b>  | <b>2,242</b>  | <b>2,472</b>  | <b>2,680</b>  | <b>2,875</b>  |
| Capital WIP                         | 608           | 1,084         | 603           | 1,014         | 1,250         | 1,250         |
| <b>Curr. Assets, Loans&amp;Adv.</b> | <b>24,240</b> | <b>25,787</b> | <b>27,783</b> | <b>29,861</b> | <b>31,829</b> | <b>34,672</b> |
| Inventory                           | 5,344         | 5,329         | 5,242         | 5,590         | 5,793         | 6,143         |
| Account Receivables                 | 3,504         | 4,228         | 4,377         | 4,633         | 4,791         | 5,119         |
| Cash and Bank Balance               | 12,177        | 11,998        | 13,990        | 15,219        | 16,677        | 18,529        |
| Cash                                | 5,545         | 4,932         | 4,529         | 5,758         | 7,216         | 9,068         |
| Bank Balance                        | 6,632         | 7,066         | 9,461         | 9,461         | 9,461         | 9,461         |
| Loans and Advances                  | 3,215         | 4,231         | 4,175         | 4,419         | 4,569         | 4,882         |
| <b>Curr. Liability &amp; Prov.</b>  | <b>11,832</b> | <b>12,982</b> | <b>13,569</b> | <b>14,385</b> | <b>14,870</b> | <b>15,785</b> |
| Account Payables                    | 6,789         | 7,064         | 7,037         | 7,504         | 7,775         | 8,245         |
| Other Current Liabilities           | 4,516         | 5,342         | 5,945         | 6,293         | 6,508         | 6,953         |
| Provisions                          | 527           | 576           | 587           | 587           | 587           | 587           |
| <b>Net Current Assets</b>           | <b>12,408</b> | <b>12,804</b> | <b>14,214</b> | <b>15,477</b> | <b>16,959</b> | <b>18,887</b> |
| Deferred Tax assets                 | 686           | 781           | 850           | 850           | 850           | 850           |
| <b>Appl. of Funds</b>               | <b>18,861</b> | <b>21,217</b> | <b>22,784</b> | <b>24,688</b> | <b>26,614</b> | <b>28,737</b> |

## Financials and Valuations

### Ratios

| Y/E December                  | CY22       | CY23       | CY24       | CY25E      | CY26E      | CY27E       |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| <b>Basic (INR)</b>            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
| <b>EPS</b>                    | <b>8.2</b> | <b>8.7</b> | <b>9.4</b> | <b>9.6</b> | <b>9.7</b> | <b>10.7</b> |
| Cash EPS                      | 9.1        | 9.7        | 10.4       | 10.7       | 10.8       | 11.8        |
| BV/Share                      | 19.1       | 21.5       | 23.0       | 25.0       | 26.9       | 29.1        |
| DPS                           | 6.5        | 7.5        | 13.0       | 7.7        | 7.8        | 8.6         |
| Payout (%)                    | 78.9       | 85.8       | 138.7      | 80.0       | 80.0       | 80.0        |
| <b>Valuation (x)</b>          |            |            |            |            |            |             |
| P/E                           | 23.1       | 21.7       | 20.3       | 19.7       | 19.5       | 17.7        |
| Cash P/E                      | 21.0       | 19.6       | 18.3       | 17.8       | 17.6       | 16.1        |
| P/BV                          | 10.0       | 8.9        | 8.2        | 7.6        | 7.1        | 6.5         |
| EV/Sales                      | 3.7        | 3.5        | 3.2        | 3.0        | 2.9        | 2.7         |
| EV/EBITDA                     | 15.8       | 14.6       | 13.6       | 13.1       | 12.6       | 11.4        |
| Dividend Yield (%)            | 3.4        | 3.9        | 6.8        | 4.1        | 4.1        | 4.5         |
| FCF per share                 | 8.2        | 7.7        | 9.6        | 9.5        | 9.6        | 10.6        |
| <b>Return Ratios (%)</b>      |            |            |            |            |            |             |
| RoE                           | 46.2       | 43.1       | 42.1       | 40.1       | 37.5       | 38.3        |
| RoCE                          | 46.3       | 43.4       | 42.5       | 40.4       | 37.8       | 38.6        |
| <b>Working Capital Ratios</b> |            |            |            |            |            |             |
| Asset Turnover (x)            | 2.5        | 2.4        | 2.4        | 2.3        | 2.2        | 2.2         |
| Inventory (Days)              | 41         | 38         | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36          |
| Debtor (Days)                 | 23         | 26         | 26         | 26         | 26         | 26          |
| Creditor (Days)               | 52         | 51         | 48         | 48         | 48         | 48          |
| <b>Leverage Ratio (x)</b>     |            |            |            |            |            |             |
| Net Debt/Equity               | -0.6       | -0.6       | -0.6       | -0.6       | -0.6       | -0.6        |

### Standalone - Cash Flow Statement

| Y/E December                     | CY22          | CY23          | CY24          | CY25E         | CY26E         | CY27E         |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>(INR m)</b>                   |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| OP/(Loss) before Tax             | 10,928        | 11,811        | 12,576        | 12,731        | 12,875        | 14,188        |
| Depreciation                     | 814           | 924           | 998           | 1,020         | 1,042         | 1,055         |
| Interest & Finance Charges       | 40            | 75            | 94            | 98            | 103           | 109           |
| Direct Taxes Paid                | -2,740        | -3,185        | -3,141        | -3,208        | -3,244        | -3,575        |
| (Inc)/Dec in WC                  | 307           | -706          | 369           | -33           | -25           | -75           |
| <b>CF from Operations</b>        | <b>9,159</b>  | <b>8,530</b>  | <b>10,441</b> | <b>10,607</b> | <b>10,751</b> | <b>11,701</b> |
| <b>CF from Operating incl EO</b> | <b>9,159</b>  | <b>8,530</b>  | <b>10,441</b> | <b>10,607</b> | <b>10,751</b> | <b>11,701</b> |
| (Inc)/Dec in FA                  | -1,097        | -955          | -927          | -1,250        | -1,250        | -1,250        |
| <b>Free Cash Flow</b>            | <b>8,062</b>  | <b>7,575</b>  | <b>9,514</b>  | <b>9,357</b>  | <b>9,501</b>  | <b>10,451</b> |
| (Pur)/Sale of Investments        | 0             | 0             | 0             | -411          | -236          | 0             |
| Others                           | 1,715         | -1,558        | -1,742        | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| <b>CF from Investments</b>       | <b>618</b>    | <b>-2,513</b> | <b>-2,669</b> | <b>-1,661</b> | <b>-1,486</b> | <b>-1,250</b> |
| Interest Paid                    | -11           | -15           | -19           | -98           | -103          | -109          |
| Dividend Paid                    | -5,935        | -6,429        | -7,913        | -7,618        | -7,704        | -8,490        |
| <b>CF from Fin. Activity</b>     | <b>-6,075</b> | <b>-6,638</b> | <b>-8,191</b> | <b>-7,716</b> | <b>-7,808</b> | <b>-8,599</b> |
| <b>Inc/Dec of Cash</b>           | <b>3,702</b>  | <b>-621</b>   | <b>-419</b>   | <b>1,230</b>  | <b>1,458</b>  | <b>1,852</b>  |
| Opening Balance                  | 1,844         | 5,553         | 4,948         | 4,529         | 5,758         | 7,216         |
| <b>Closing Balance</b>           | <b>5,546</b>  | <b>4,932</b>  | <b>4,529</b>  | <b>5,758</b>  | <b>7,216</b>  | <b>9,068</b>  |

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## NOTES



| Explanation of Investment Rating |                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Investment Rating                | Expected return (over 12-month)                                                              |
| BUY                              | >=15%                                                                                        |
| SELL                             | < - 10%                                                                                      |
| NEUTRAL                          | < - 10 % to 15%                                                                              |
| UNDER REVIEW                     | Rating may undergo a change                                                                  |
| NOT RATED                        | We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation |

\*In case the recommendation given by the Research Analyst is inconsistent with the investment rating legend for a continuous period of 30 days, the Research Analyst shall be within following 30 days take appropriate measures to make the recommendation consistent with the investment rating legend.

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