India | Media & Entertainment | Result Update | Rating Downgrade

13 May 2025

# Shifting tides ahead

PVR Inox's (PVRINOX IN) Q4 was as expected, hit by weak box office (BO) – Occupancy dropped to 20.5% (22.6% in Q4FY24), footfall declined 6.4%YoY to 30.5mn and net ATP rose 8.5%. H1FY26 content slate is promising, with expectations of stronger show. But occupancy post-COVID seems structurally lower at ~23% from 30%+. So, we cut EBITDA estimate by 9-11% for FY26E-27E. We thus downgrade PVRINOX to Accumulate (from Buy) with TP pared to INR 1,100 (from INR 1,600) on 14x Jun-28E EV/EBITDA (pre-IND As). We introduce FY28E estimate.

**Modest Q4 but visibility strong for H1FY26**: Q4 revenue growth was in-line, down 0.5% YoY to INR 12.5bn, led by muted content in Q4 – only two content properties crossed INR lbn mark. *Chhavaa* was the highest grossing film at INR 5.8bn (net Hindi), followed by *Sky Force* (INR 1.1bn). As per our assessment, H1 Hindi box office visibility is strong at INR 20bn (+33% YoY) led by big-ticket films (*Kannappa, Housefull 5, War 2, Sitaare Zameen Par, Son of Sardar 2)*. Further, a strong Hollywood content pipeline shall support occupancy (*Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning, Final Destination: Bloodlines, Jurassic World Rebirth* etc.).

**Occupancy down led by poor box office show**: Post strong Q3, momentum in box office slowed down, barring the performance of *Chaava* and *Sky Force*. Thus, occupancy was down to 20.5% (22.6% in Q4FY24), and resulted in footfall dropping 6.4% YoY to 30.5mn. With busy content slate in H1, expect occupancy to touch 24.5% in FY26E and 25% each in FY27E-28E. Net ATP rose 8.5% in Q4 but net SPH dropped 1.4% YoY. Expect ATP and SPH to post 1.7% and 3.0% CAGRs in FY25-28E, respectively. Ad revenue (per screen) dropped 4% YoY in Q4, owing to lower occupancy. In FY25, PVRINOX added net five screens. We expect 20 screens to be added in FY26E and 60 each in FY27E-28E.

**Increased focus on capital light model; margin to remain in narrow band:** PVRINOX is exercising multiple initiatives to support margins. It aims to add significant number of screens (~50% per estimate) under FOCO and asset light models, resulting in lower capex requirement per screen. However, this could be margin dilutive given the sharing agreements with developers. Overall, for sustained margin gains, operating leverage via better content performance is key lever. In FY25, PVRINOX posted an EBITDAM of 26.7% (down 297bps YoY). In FY26E-28E, we expect margin to be in the band of 27.7-28.8%.

**Downgrade to Accumulate; TP pared to INR 1,100:** Expect H1FY26 to be strong on a low base of H1FY25. Recovery in Hollywood content should augur well. Screen growth may be subdued (on content mix). Increased use of a capital light model is near term monitorable, especially given the muted content performance. Performance of key metrics, ATP and SPH, may be subdued until consistent box office show. Occupancy post Covid has dropped to 23.0% from ~30%+, which seems structural. So, we cut EBITDA estimates by 9%/11% for FY26E-27E and introduce FY28E. We pare TP to INR 1,100 (from INR 1,600), as we value PVRINOX at 14x Jun-28E EV/EBITDA (pre-IND As). **Downgrade to Accumulate** from Buy. Robust content performance and occupancy are key lever for growth.

# **Key Financials**

YE March	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue (INR mn)	61,071	57,799	65,168	70,749	75,333
YoY (%)	16.9	(5.4)	12.7	8.6	6.5
EBITDA (INR mn)	18,101	15,416	18,043	20,106	21,698
EBITDA margin (%)	29.6	26.7	27.7	28.4	28.8
Adj PAT (INR mn)	(327)	(2,809)	(764)	785	1,195
YoY (%)	(89.9)	759.0	(72.8)	(202.8)	52.2
Fully DEPS (INR)	(3.3)	(28.6)	(7.8)	8.0	12.2
RoE (%)	(0.4)	(3.9)	(1.1)	1.1	1.7
RoCE (%)	6.5	3.0	5.3	6.3	6.6
P/E (x)	(288.8)	(33.6)	(123.7)	120.3	79.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	9.5	11.2	9.5	8.6	7.9

Note: Pricing as on 12 May 2025; Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

Rating: Accumulate
Target Price: INR 1,100
Upside: 14%
CMP: INR 963
As on 12 May 2025

Key data	
Bloomberg	<b>PVRINOX IN</b>
Reuters Code	PVRL.NS
Shares outstanding (mn)	98
Market cap (INR bn/USD mn)	95/1,106
EV (INR bn/USD mn)	172/2,035
ADTV 3M (INR mn/USD mn)	470/5
52 week high/low	1,748/826
Free float (%)	72

Note: as on 12 May 2025; Source: Bloomberg

#### Price chart



Source: Bloomberg

Shareholding (%)	Q1 FY25	Q2 FY25	Q3 FY25	Q4 FY25
Promoter	27.8	27.5	27.5	27.5
% Pledge	5.9	5.9	5.9	10.2
FII	18.1	20.7	19.2	20.4
DII	38.8	40.0	40.0	36.3
Others	15.3	11.8	13.3	15.8
Source: BSE				
Price performance (%)		3M	6M	12 <i>M</i>
Nifty		8.2	4.4	13.0
PVR Inox		(8.7)	(34.9)	(25.3)

4.2

42

(2.8)

(8.8)

6.7

3.8

Source: Bloomberg

NSE Mid-cap

NSE Small-cap

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# Financials (YE March)

	EV04	EVOE	EVO/E	EVORE	EVOOF
Income Statement (INR mn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Total Revenue	61,071	57,799	65,168	70,749	75,333
Gross Profit	41,964	41,345	46,586	50,528	54,091
EBITDA	18,101	15,416	18,043	20,106	21,698
EBIT	5,908	2,618	4,440	5,038	5,150
Interest expense	7,913	8,095	7,464	7,183	7,251
Other income	1,566	1,737	2,010	3,196	3,698
PBT	(439)	(3,740)	(1,014)	1,051	1,597
Tax	(112)	(934)	(254)	263	399
Minority interest/Associates income	-	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Reported PAT	(327)	(2,809)	(764)	785	1,195
Adjusted PAT	(327)	(2,809)	(764)	785	1,195
Balance Sheet (INR mn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Shareholders' Equity	73,235	70,515	69,751	70,536	71,731
Minority Interest	(3)	19	19	19	19
Trade Payables	6,511	7,523	7,636	8,310	8,729
Provisions & Other Current Liabilities	10,289	11,744	11,762	12,320	12,778
Total Borrowings	17,177	14,908	11,608	8,408	6,308
Other long term liabilities	60,995	57,915	61,530	66,665	69,375
Total liabilities & equity	168,204	162,624	162,307	166,258	168,941
Net Fixed Assets	31,056	30,307	24,244	18,795	11,868
Goodwill	57,431	57,431	57,431	57,431	57,431
Intangible assets	1,377	1,256	1,256	1,256	1,256
Business Investments / other NC assets	68,401	62,820	65,031	70,204	74,670
Cash, Bank Balances & treasury investments	3,930	5,225	8,348	12,263	17,151
Inventories	725	802	904	982	1,045
Sundry Debtors	2,346	2,430	2,740	2,974	3,167
Other Current Assets	2,938	2,353	2,353	2,353	2,353
Total Assets	168,204	162,624	162,307	166,258	168,941
Cash Flow Statement	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Cashflow from Operations	7,985	4,570	18,043	20,106	21,698
Capital expenditure	(6,344)	(3,335)	(540)	(1,620)	(1,620)
Other Business cashflow	78	309	(3,586)	(4,841)	(6,058)
Free Cash Flow	1,719	1,544	13,917	13,645	14,020
Cashflow from Financing	(1,120)	(249)	(10,794)	(9,729)	(9,132)
Net Change in Cash / treasury investments	599	1,295	3,123	3,915	4,888
Key assumptions & Ratios	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Book value per share	746.5	718.8	711.0	719.0	731.2
RoCE (Pre-tax)	6.5	3.0	5.3	6.3	6.6
ROIC (Pre-tax)	6.8	3.1	5.8	7.2	8.1
ROE%	(0.4)	(3.9)	(1.1)	1.1	1.7
Asset Turnover	2.0	1.9	2.4	3.3	4.9
Net Debt to EBITDA (x)	0.7	0.6	0.2	(0.2)	(0.5)
Interest cover (x) (EBITDA/ int exp)	2.3	1.9	2.4	2.8	3.0
Total Working capital days (WC/rev)	(44.2)	(51.9)	(30.0)	(11.1)	11.0
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Valuation	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
P/E (x)	(288.8)	(33.6)	(123.7)	120.3	79.1
P/Sales (x)	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.3
EV/ EBITDA (x)	9.5	11.2	9.5	8.6	7.9
EV/ OCF (x)	21.6	37.7	9.5	8.6	7.9
	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FCF Yield Price to BV (x)	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.3	1.3

We expect a revenue CAGR of 9.2% in FY25-28E

Note: Pricing as on 12 May 2025; Source: Company, Elara Securities Estimate

## Exhibit 1: Financial highlights

Consolidated (INR mn)	Q4FY25	Q4FY24	YoY (%)	Q3FY25	QoQ (%)	FY25	FY24	YoY (%)
Revenue	12,498	12,564	(0.5)	17,173	(27.2)	57,799	61,071	(5.4)
EBITDA	2,831	2,784	1.7	5277	(46.4)	15,416	18,101	(14.8)
EBITDA margin (%)	22.7	22.2	49 bps	30.7	(808) bps	26.7	29.6	(297) bps
Depreciation	3,161	3,028	4.4	3,201		12,798	12,193	5.0
Interest cost	1,959	1,999	(2.0)	2,031		8,095	7,913	2.3
Other income	614	491	25.1	418		1,737	1,566	10.9
РВТ	(1,675)	(1,752)	(4.4)	463		(3,740)	(439)	751.9
Tax	(424)	(455)	(6.8)	107		(934)	(112)	733.9
Effective tax rate (%)	25.3	26.0		23.1		25.0	25.5	
PAT	(1,253)	(1,297)	(3.4)	355	NA	(2,809)	(327)	759.0
Adj. PAT	(1,253)	(1,297)	(3.4)	355	NA	(2,809)	(327)	759.0
Adj. EPS (INR)	(12.8)	(13.2)	(3.4)	4	NA	(28.6)	(3.3)	759.0

Source: Company, Elara Securities Research

## **Exhibit 2: Operating metrics**

Key metrics	Q4FY25	Q4FY24	YoY (%)	Q3FY25	QoQ (%)	FY25	FY24	YoY (%)
Revenue (INR mn)								
Sale of movie tickets	6,447	6,353	1.5	8791	(26.7)	29,549	32,799	(9.9)
Sale of food & beverages	3,811	4,132	(7.8)	5209	(26.8)	18,270	19,584	(6.7)
Advertisement income	962	1,045	(7.9)	1486	(35.3)	4,475	4,519	(1.0)
Convenience fees & other operating	1,278	1,034	23.6	1687	(24.2)	5,505	4,169	32.0
Total revenue from operations	12,498	12,564	(0.5)	17173	(27.2)	57,799	61,071	(5.4)
EBITDA (pre-IndAS)	(364.0)	(139.0)	161.9	2165.0	(116.8)	2,966	6,521	(54.5)
EBITDA (pre-IndAS) margin	(2.9)	(1.1)		12.6		5.1	10.7	
Other metrics								
Screens (#)	1723	1718	0.3	1745	(1.3)	1723	1718	0.3
Footfall (mn)	30.5	32.6	(6.4)	37.3	(18.2)	136.9	151.4	(9.6)
Occupancy (%)	20.5	22.6		25.7		23.0	25.6	
Gross ATP (INR)	258	233	10.7	281	(8.2)	259	259	0.0
Gross SPH (INR)	125	129	(3.1)	140	(10.7)	134	132	1.5

Source: Company, Elara Securities Research

## Exhibit 3: Capital light model

Model	Key features	Revenue sharing	Impact	Other comments
Management Contract Model	Developer owns the cinema, PVRINOX manages operations - 100% capex by the developer	PVRINOX receives a share of revenue (typically 8-10%), including other fees.	Lower EBITDA margin compared with the lease model due to revenue share, Revenue share flows to headline without Assets on the PVRL's book.	Revenue share based on management contract with minimal capital risk for PVRINOX
Asset-Light Model	Co-investment between PVRINOX and developer – PVRINOX invests in movable assets while the developer covers 40-80% of capex	Revenue share based on capex contribution; typically 15% for box office, concessions.	Margins are generally lower than the lease model but offer lower capital expenditure. PVRL records assets in proportion to investment.	Developers earn returns similar to REITs; typically, yields range from 8- 9% depending on their investment in immovable assets. In Ad revenue: PVRINOX gets 35% of ad revenues.

Source: Company, Elara Securities Research

# Q4FY25 results highlights

## Financial performance

- PVRINOX's revenue came in at INR 12.5bn, in line with our estimate, down 0.5% YoY and 27.2% QoQ in Q4FY25. This was largely led by a 10.7% YoY rise in gross ATP in Q4 with BO hits such as *Chhaava* (INR 5.6bn) and *Sky Force* (INR 1.1bn).
- Post IndAS, Q4 EBITDA margin was at 22.7%, up 49bps YoY but down 808bps QoQ. PVRINOX's post IndAS EBITDA was INR 2.8bn (up 1.7% YoY, down 46.4% QoQ). Pre-IndAS, EBITDA loss was at INR 0.3bn in Q4FY25 as against pre-IndAS EBITDA loss of INR 0.1bn in Q4FY24 and INR 2.1bn in Q3FY25.
- PVRINOX posted a loss of INR 1,253mn in Q4FY25 as compared with INR 1,297mn in Q4FY24.

### Segmental performance

- Net BO revenue in Q4 stood at INR 6.4bn, up 1.5% YoY but down 26.7% QoQ. This segment formed 51.6% of revenue in Q4FY25 versus 50.5% in Q4FY24.
- Revenue from Food and Beverages (F&B) came in at INR 3.8bn, down 7.9% YoY and 26.8% QoQ, forming 30.5% of total revenue in Q4FY25.
- ➤ Ad income stood at INR 0.9bn in Q4, down 7.9% YoY and 35.3% QoQ. The segment's share in revenue stood at 7.87% in Q4.
- Convenience fees stood at INR 1.2bn, up 23.6% YoY but down 24.2% QoQ. Convenience fees, as a
  percentage of BO revenue, stood at 19.8% in Q4FY25.

#### Other key metrics

- In Q4, the total number of screens for the merged entity stood at 1,723 versus 1,718 in Q4FY24, up 0.3% YoY. On a net basis, PVRINOX closed 22 screens in Q4. As of date, the screen portfolio (including 42 management screens) is at 1,743 across 111 cities. The management has guided for a gross addition of 100-110 new screens in FY26.
- Footfalls were lower sequentially at 30.5mn, down 6.4% QoQ and 18.2% YoY.
- Occupancy moderated to 20.5% in Q4 from 22.6% in Q4FY24 and 25.7% in Q3FY25.
- Gross ATP in Q4 stood at an INR 258, up 10.7% YoY but down 8.2% QoQ and gross SPH was at INR 125, down 3.1% YoY and 10.7% QoQ.

#### **Conference call highlights**

- Box office releases were uneven, resulting in fluctuating performance. Collection from Hollywood releases was down by 28% YoY.
- Despite industry-wide headwinds, PVRINOX's performance is resilient. Its focus has shifted from addressing footfall decline to generating it. Despite content challenges, it offered value in ticket prices.
- PVRINOX added 23 cinemas via the capital-light model, which are expected to be operational in 12-24 months. It continues to strengthen its balance sheet as net debt has been reduced since the merger.
- FY26 looks attractive, given the strong line-up of Hollywood, Bollywood, and regional content. The current portfolio stands at 1,743 screens (as of May 2025).
- PVRINOX plans to add 100-110 gross screens in FY26. The screens closed in FY25 were due to property infrastructure issues. PVRINOX is keen to close underperforming screens.
- Recently, screens were opened in Delhi, where significant capex contribution was invested by developers. Twenty-three properties have been signed under the FOCO model. Of the total 110 screens, most will be under the asset-light model.
- PVRINOX does not foresee any challenges in opening new screens. Cinema theatres remain a key
  part of malls, and viewers continue to visit theatres.

- PVRINOX reduced its net debt by INR 3.4bn in FY25. Capex intensity will come down, and as a
  result, net debt levels are likely to decrease significantly.
- PVRINOX does not see a material incremental change from the newly added asset-light model screens but this will support operating cash flows.
- The OTT window is eight weeks and will increase. The biggest movie monetization comes from theatres. In case of the management contract model, PVRINOX receives a share of revenue, which differs based on capex. EBITDA margin will be lower due to this model as revenue is shared with developers.
- Screens at Raipur and Jabalpur are based on FOCO, and the revenue share is 8.5%, with some fees accrued (essentially 10% of the revenue is received). In the case of ads, PVRINOX takes 35% of the revenue. This includes performance-linked incentives.
- Around 50% of the screens will be a combination of the FOCO model and Asset light model. PVRINOX does not capitalize the FOCO model, whereas in the asset-light model, it capitalizes its own invested portion.
- FY26 will be a strong year for Hollywood, with movies such as *Mission Impossible, Karate Kids*, and *Final Destination* expected to perform well. The company remains optimistic about box office performance. The global box office is up 7% YoY.
- PVRINOX maintains cash on the balance sheet due to higher fixed costs. This has resulted in a build-up of cash on the balance sheet. The overall net debt level is expected to decrease. PVRINOX will spend INR 2.5bn on new projects.
- The number of mid-sized Bollywood movies is increasing post-Covid. PVRINOX is working across all the line items of the P&L. Teams are working with the developers to negotiate terms. Via automation, PVRINOX aims to manage manpower costs. It has set up a solar panel system to save on electricity costs.
- Under the FOCO model, there are no physical costs, as capex is borne by developers.
- The process of selecting developers and choosing the FOCO model is strategic. If a developer is large and has a cost advantage, PVRINOX opts for the FOCO model. The developer can make certain decisions (e.g., ticket prices).
- Around 60% of the developer's investment is in immovable infrastructure, while PVRINOX's share is in movable infrastructure. The standard share is 15% of the box office collection, where developers have no say in content selection.
- The ticket cess by the Karnataka government has not been implemented. PVRINOX aims to deleverage its balance sheet in the coming year.

## Exhibit 4: Valuations

(INR mn)	Jun-28E
EBITDA (pre IndAS)	7,604
Multiple (x)	14
EV	1,02,654
Cash	13,549
Debt	7,883
Equity value	1,08,320
No. of shares (mn)	98.1
TP (INR)	1,100
CMP (INR)	963
Upside (%)	15
Source: Elera Socuritica Estimata	

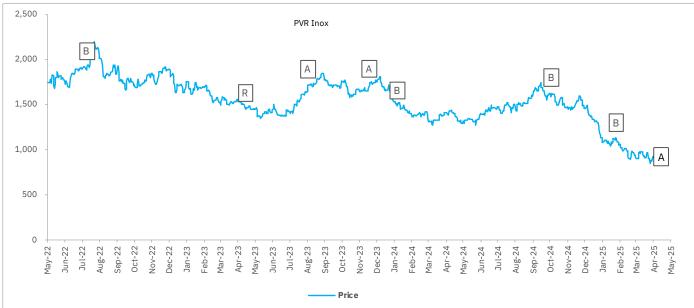
Source: Elara Securities Estimate

## Exhibit 5: Changes in estimates

Consolidated (INR mn)	Old		New		Changes (	%)	New
	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue	70,366	77,190	65,168	70,749	(7.4)	(8.3)	75,333
EBITDA	19,800	22,535	18,043	20,106	(8.9)	(10.8)	21,698
EBITDA margin	28.1	29.2	27.7	28.4	(45)	(78)	28.8
Net profit	(305)	685	(764)	785	150.7	14.6	1,195
EPS (INR)	(3.1)	7.0	(7.8)	8.0	150.7	14.6	12.2
TP (INR)		1,600		1,100		(31.3)	
Rating		Buy		Accumulate			

Source: Elara Securities Estimate

# **Coverage History**



Date	Rating	Target Price (INR) Closin	g Price (INR)
03-Aug-2021	Buy	2,100	1,366
18-Feb-2022	Buy	2,375	1,573
09-May-2022	Buy	2,400	1,706
21-Jul-2022	Buy	2,600	1,915
26-Apr-2023	Reduce	1,510	1,450
14-Aug-2023	Accumulate	2,050	1,714
30-Nov-2023	Accumulate	1,900	1,718
18-Jan-2024	Buy	1,900	1,480
15-Oct-2024	Buy	1,950	1,480
06-Feb-2025	Buy	1,600	1,121
12-May-2025	Accumulate	1,100	963

# Guide to Research Rating

BUY (B)	Absolute Return >+20%
ACCUMULATE (A	Absolute Return +5% to +20%
REDUCE (R)	Absolute Return -5% to +5%
SELL (S)	Absolute Return < -5%

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