

Result Update 10th February 2025 Hero Motocorp Ltd



EBITDA & PAT Beat, Product Premiumization and EVs to Drive Growth

Est. Vs. Actual for Q3FY25: Revenue- INLINE; EBITDA - BEAT; PAT- BEAT Change in Estimates post Q3FY25

FY25E/FY65E: Revenue: -1%/-1.5%;EBITDA: -0.3%/-0.4%; PAT: -0.9%/-0.6%. Recommendation Rationale

- Long-term Growth Strategy: Hero MotoCorp's (Hero) strategy for 2030 is built on four key growth pillars: strengthening its core business, excelling in the premium segment, leading in electric vehicles (EVs), and diversifying revenue streams. Anchored by the 4S mantra—speed, scale, synergy, and simplification—the strategy also focuses on creating a future-ready organisation and advancing environmental, social, and governance (ESG) initiatives. As part of its ongoing portfolio reshaping, the company introduced four new models at Bharat Mobility, positioning itself for sustained growth.
- New Product Launches: Product launches in premium scooters and EVs will drive growth, with new models planned for Q4FY25 and FY26. The company is expanding its sub-Rs 1 Lc EV lineup with the Vida V2 platform, reinforcing its position in the massmarket scooter segment. New premium motorcycles like the Xpulse 210 and Xtreme 250R have received strong market feedback, while upcoming launches, including the Xoom 125, Xoom 160, and Destini 125, will further strengthen Hero's scooter portfolio.
- **EBITDA Margins:** Hero achieved over Rs 10,000 EBITDA per vehicle, driven by a richer product mix and judicious pricing strategies. The EBITDA margin for the ICE segment stood at 16%, down 50 bps QoQ, primarily due to higher marketing and advertisement expenses linked to the festive season. The company aims to maintain overall EBITDA margins in the range of 14-16% in the medium term, supported by a richer product mix— EVs and higher cc motorcycles, continued product premiumisation, lower material costs, and improved operational efficiencies, especially in the EV segment.

Sector Outlook: Positive on 2W.

Company Outlook & Guidance: The company has strengthened its domestic position in the 125cc segment, increasing its market share from 14% to over 21%. Hero has also enhanced its premium offerings, which are supported by a strong framework for scaling up its premium business. Additionally, its global business is rapidly expanding, with parts, accessories, and merchandise segments delivering record revenue, highlighting its continued growth potential. Hero maintains a long-term EBITDA margin guidance of approximately 14-16%.

Current Valuation: 19x on core FY27E EPS (unchanged), Ather 1.5x FY24 and Hero Fincorp 1.5x at FY24 P/B.

Current TP: Rs 5,285/share (Earlier TP: Rs 5,250/share).

Recommendation: We maintain our BUY rating on the stock.

Financial Performance

In Q3FY25, the company reported revenue of Rs 10,211 Cr (in line with expectations), up 5% YoY and down 2.6% QoQ, driven by flat YoY and down 3.7% QoQ volumes, along with higher ASP. EBITDA stood at Rs 1,476 Cr (beat), up 8.4% YoY and down 2.6% QoQ, with margins at 14.5%, up 45 bps YoY and nearly flat QoQ. This performance was supported by a richer product mix, increased exports (up 40% YoY), and EV sales. Reported PAT came in at Rs 1,203 Cr (8.8% beat), up 12.1% YoY and flat QoQ, primarily driven by EBITDA growth and higher other income.

Key Financials (Standalone)

(Rs Cr)	Q3FY25	QoQ (%)	YoY (%)	Axis Est.	Variance
Net Sales	10,211	-2%	5.0%	10,042	2%
EBITDA	1,476	-3%	8.4%	1,417	4%
EBITDA Margin (%)	14.5%	-3 bps	45 bps	14.1%	35 bps
Reported Net Profit	1,203	0%	12.1%	1,106	9%
Reported EPS (Rs)	60.1	0%	12.0%	55.3	9%

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

(CM	P as of 7 th February 2025)
CMP (Rs)	4,278
Upside /Downside (%)	24%
High/Low (Rs)	6,245/3,999
Market cap (Cr)	85,562
Avg. daily vol. (6m) Shrs	. 704,393
No. of shares (Cr)	20.00

Shareholding (%)

	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24
Promoter	34.76	34.75	34.74
Flls	29.86	29.59	27.94
MFs / UTI	13.75	14.57	16.12
DIIs	0.11	0.11	0.13
Others	21.52	20.98	21.07

Financial & Valuations

Y/E Mar (Rs Cr)	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net Sales	40,871	43,987	47,609
EBITDA	5,858	6,313	6,765
Net Profit	4,634	4,973	5,311
EPS (Rs.)	232.0	248.9	265.8
PER (x)	18.3	17.1	16.0
EV/ EBITDA	14.4	13.0	11.8
P/BV (x)	4.2	3.8	3.4
RoE (%)	22.8	22.1	21.3

Change in Estimates (%)

Y/E Mar	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Sales	-1.0%	-1.5%	-1.5%
EBITDA	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.4%
PAT	-0.9%	-0.6%	-0.5%

Relative performance



Source: ACE Equity, Axis Securities Research

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Outlook

We are monitoring (1) Hero's roadmap in the EV product portfolio, including investments in Ather, the ramp-up of VIDA V2, and the launch of the sub-Rs 1 Lc Vida V2 Lite catering to mass markets; (2) Strategy in the mid-weight MC segment amidst growing competition; (3) Expansion into new international markets. Additionally, government initiatives to enhance rural income, higher disposable income (as announced in the recent Union Budget), and the marriage season are expected to drive 2W industry growth, benefiting Hero, particularly in the entry and 125cc segments. Consequently, we estimate an 8%/9%/9% CAGR in Revenue/EBITDA/PAT over FY24-27E.

Valuation & Recommendation

We value the stock at 19x P/E on core FY27E EPS (unchanged), with Ather valued at 1.5x FY24 and Hero Fincorp at 1.5x FY24 P/B, arriving at a TP of Rs 5,285/share (from Rs 5,250/share). We maintain a BUY rating on the stock, projecting a 24% upside from the CMP.

Key Concall Highlights

- **Financing Arm**: Hero FinCorp's loan book increased to Rs 55,500 Cr, up 13% YoY, but lower collection efficiency in personal loans led to a 150 bps rise in credit cost. The segment's profitability was impacted, with the company focusing on strengthening collections, which showed relative improvement in December and January.
- EV scale-up and Vida V2: Hero MotoCorp's Vida V2 platform, including the V2 Lite (sub-Rs 1 lakh), targets the 60% massmarket Scooter segment. Sales dipped during the V1 to V2 transition, but demand is picking up from Feb'25. During this transition, the company sought product BoM (Bill of Materials) cost reduction. Hero has expanded its EV reach to 100+ cities, aiming for 200+ by FY26, with PLI compliance in the pipeline set to improve costs. With localisation and a more substantial retail and charging network, we expect Hero to gain market share
- Market share: Hero's overall market share expanded by 520 bps QoQ to 32.8%, supported by strong sales in the Deluxe 125cc segment, where Splendor and Xtreme 125R led with a combined market share increase from 13% in Q4 FY24 to over 20% in Q3 FY25.
- Change in Leadership: Hero had announced several key leadership changes. Mr Vikram Kasbekar has been appointed the Acting CEO, succeeding Mr Niranjan Gupta. Mr Ram Kuppuswamy has been elevated to COO of Manufacturing. Mr. Ashutosh Varma will now lead the India Business Unit as CBO, taking over from Mr. Ranjivjit Singh. Additionally, Mrs. Jyoti Singh will assume the role of Deputy CHRO.
- Harley Davidson: Hero continues its partnership with Harley Davidson, expanding the X440 platform and developing a new premium motorcycle in the pipeline. Exports are planned, leveraging Harley's global network, with further product announcements expected in the near term.
- Xoom Scooters: Hero expanded its scooter line-up with Xoom 125 (with larger 14-inch wheels) and Xoom 160 (with a liquid-cooled motor). The 160cc segment is relatively untapped in the mass markets (except for minor offerings from Yamaha and Aprilia), presenting a newer market opportunity. Initial demand trends indicate strong traction for both models.
- **Budget**: The management believes that the recent budget's tax relief will increase disposable income for average earners. This positive cash impact is expected to help consumers manage their financial obligations, potentially covering the EMI payments for their two-wheelers and boosting demand in the coming year.
- OBD2 Compliance: Hero is transitioning to OBD2 Phase B, with 1-2% price increases expected across models due to additional hardware costs. Management stated that the company is on track to meet the deadline of April 1, 2025, ensuring minimal disruption to production and sales.
- Parts, Accessories, and Merchandise: Revenue from parts, accessories, and merchandise amounted to Rs 1,555 Cr in Q3, representing a 9% YoY growth.
- Stores: As of December 2024, Hero had launched 60 Premia stores catering to premium customers. To drive higher customer engagement and premium positioning, Hero plans to reach 100 stores by the end of FY25. Hero has upgraded 700+ Hero 2.0 stores in under 700 days. EV outlets now cover 100+ cities, with plans to double by FY26.



Key Risks to Our Estimates and TP

- Any further loss in Market share, which is down 100bps market share in H1FY25 vs FY24.
- Failure to grow volumes in the EV space could drive derating.

Change in Estimates

	Revised		Old			% Change			
	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Sales Volume ('000 units)	5.96	6.29	6.68	6.02	6.39	6.78	-1.0%	-1.5%	-1.5%
Sales	40,871	43,987	47,609	40,974	44,157	47,783	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.4%
EBITDA	5,858	6,313	6,765	5,914	6,349	6,802	-0.9%	-0.6%	-0.5%
PAT	4,634	4,973	5,311	4,622	5,000	5,340	0.3%	-0.5%	-0.5%
EPS	232.0	248.9	265.8	231.4	250.3	267.3	0.2%	-0.6%	-0.5%

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

Q3FY25 Results Review

YE March (Rs Cr)	Q3FY25	Axis Sec Estimates	Axis Sec Var (%)	Q2FY25	QoQ (%)	Q3FY24	YoY (%)
Total Revenue	10,211	10,042	1.7%	10,463	-2.4%	9,724	5.0%
ASP (Rs/Vehicle)	69,756	68,602	1.7%	68,852	1.3%	66,604	4.7%
Less:							
Net Raw Material consumed	6,715	6,708	0.1%	6,979	-3.8%	6,547	2.6%
Other Exp.	1,357	1,255	8.1%	1,314	3.2%	1,213	11.9%
Personnel	662	662	0.1%	654	1.3%	602	10.1%
Total Expenditure	8,734	8,625	1.3%	8,947	-2.4%	8,362	4.5%
EBIDTA	1,476	1,417	4.2%	1,516	-2.6%	1,362	8.4%
Less: Depreciation	197	207	-5.0%	194	1.7%	183	7.9%
EBIT	1,280	1,210	5.8%	1,322	-3.2%	1,180	8.5%
Less: Interest	5	5	18.21%	5	10.5%	5	20.6%
Other Income	318	270	17.7%	283	12.2%	242	31.2%
Profit Before Extraordinary Items and Tax	1,592	1,475	7.9%	1,600	-0.5%	1,417	12.3%
Extraordinary Expense/(Income)	-	-	NA	-	NA	-	NA
Profit Before Tax	1,592	1,475	7.9%	1,600	-0.5%	1,417	12.3%
Less: Total Tax	389	369	5.5%	397	-2.0%	344	13.1%
Profit After Tax	1,203	1,106	8.8%	1,204	-0.1%	1,073	12.1%
Adj. Net Profit	1,203	1,106	8.8%	1,204	-0.1%	1,073	12.1%
Shares Outstanding (Cr)	20	20	0.0%	20	0.0%	20	0.1%
Reported EPS (Rs.)	60.1	55.3	8.8%	60.2	-0.1%	53.7	12.0%
Adj. EPS (Rs.)	60.1	55.3	8.8%	60.2	-0.1%	53.7	12.0%

Cost & Margin Analysis	Q3FY25E	Axis Sec Estimates	Change in bps	Q2FY25	Change in bps	Q3FY24	Change in bps
Net Raw Material/Net Sales (%)	66%	67%	-103	67%	(94)	67%	(156)
Other Exp./Net Sales (%)	13%	13%	79	13%	73	12%	81
Personnel/Net Sales (%)	6%	7%	-11	6%	24	6%	30
Gross Margin (%)	34%	33%	103	33%	94	33%	156
EBITDA Margin (%)	14.5%	14.1%	35	14.5%	(3)	14.0%	45
EBIT (%)	13%	12%	49	13%	(10)	12%	40
PBT Margin (%)	16%	15%	90	15%	29	15%	101
NPM (%)	12%	11%	77	12%	28	11%	74
Adj. NPM (%)	12%	11%	77	12%	28	11%	74
Effective Tax Rate (%)	24%	25%	-57	25%	(36)	24%	18

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research



Financials (Standalone)

Profit & Loss

Y/E March (Rs Cr) FY24 FY25E FY26E FY27E Net revenues 37,456 40,871 43,987 47,609 Operating expenses 32,194 35,013 37,674 40,844 EBIDTA 5,261 5,858 6,313 6,765 EBITDA margin (%) 14.0 14.3 14.4 14.2 Other income 886 1,102 1,111 1,111 Interest 19 20 20 21 Depreciation 711 765 774 774 Profit Before Tax 5,418 6,175 6,630 7,082 1,770 Тах 1,290 1,443 1,658 **Reported Net Profit** 3,968 4,732 4,973 5,311 Net Margin (%) 10.6 11.6 11.3 11.2 Adjusted Net Profit 4,127 4,634 4,973 5,311

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

Balance Sheet

				(
Y/E March (Rs Cr)	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Equity Capital	40	40	40	40
Reserves & surplus	17,946	19,979	22,253	24,866
Shareholders' funds	17,986	20,019	22,293	24,906
Total Loans	0	0	0	0
Deferred tax liability	435	435	435	435
Total Liabilities and Equity	18,421	20,454	22,728	25,341
Gross block	12,465	13,445	14,195	14,695
Depreciation	6,631	7,396	8,170	8,944
Net block	5,834	6,049	6,025	5,752
Capital WIP	481	500	250	250
Investments	13,086	13,486	13,886	14,286
Inventory	1,444	1,680	1,687	1,826
Debtors	2,703	3,247	3,374	3,652
Cash & Bank Bal	609	509	2,894	5,312
Loans & Advances	1,415	2,092	1,777	1,886
Current Assets	6,171	7,528	9,732	12,675
Sundry Creditors	5,528	5,487	5,544	6,000
Other Current Liability	1,622	1,622	1,622	1,622
Current Liability& Provisions	7,151	7,109	7,166	7,622
Net current assets	-980	419	2,566	5,053
Total Assets	18,421	20,454	22,728	25,341

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

(Rs Cr)

(Rs Cr)



(Rs Cr)

Cash Flow				(Rs C
Y/E March (Rs Cr)	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
EBIT	4,550	5,093	5,539	5,991
Other Income	886	1,102	1,111	1,111
Depreciation & Amortization	711	765	774	774
Interest paid (-)	-19	-20	-20	-21
Tax paid (-)	-1,290	-1,443	-1,658	-1,770
Extra Ord Income	-159	0	0	0
Operating Cash Flow	4,679	5,497	5,747	6,085
Change in Working Capital	1,118	-1,498	237	-69
Cash flow from Operations	5,797	3,998	5,984	6,016
Сарех	-801	-1,000	-500	-500
Strategic Investment	0	0	0	0
Non-Strategic Investment	-2,076	-400	-400	-400
Cash flow from Investing	-2,876	-1,400	-900	-900
Change in borrowing	0	0	0	0
Others	41	-0	0	-0
Dividends paid (-)	-2,699	-2,699	-2,699	-2,699
Cash Flow from Financial Activities	-2,657	-2,699	-2,699	-2,699
Change in Cash	263	-100	2,385	2,418
Opening cash	346	609	509	2,894
Closing cash	609	509	2,894	5,312
Source: Company Axis Securities Research				

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

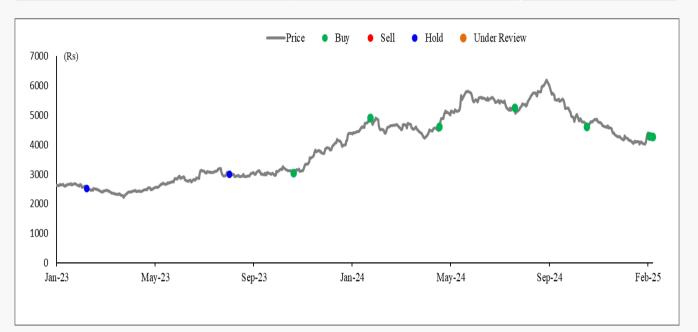
Ratio Analysis

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Y/E March (Rs Cr)	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue Growth	10.8	9.1	7.6	8.2
EBITDA Margin	14.0	14.3	14.4	14.2
Net Profit Margin	11.0	11.3	11.3	11.2
ROCE (%)	21.7	22.4	21.7	21.0
ROE (%)	22.1	22.8	22.1	21.3
EPS (Rs)	198	232	249	266
P/E (x)	22.9	18.3	17.1	16.0
P/ BV (x)	5.3	4.2	3.8	3.4
EV/ EBITDA (x)	17.8	14.4	13.0	11.8
Fixed Assets Turnover Ratio (x)	5.9	6.2	7.0	7.9
Debt / Equity (x)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EV/ Sales (x)	2.5	2.1	1.9	1.7

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

(%)





Hero Motocorp Recommendation History

Date	Reco	ТР	Research
09-Feb-23	HOLD	2,790	Result Update
08-May-23	BUY	2,900	Result Update
14-Aug-23	HOLD	3,150	Result Update
03-Nov-23	BUY	3,370	Result Update
12-Feb-24	BUY	5,500	Result Update
09-May-24	BUY	5,530	Result Update
14-Aug-24	BUY	6,015	Result Update
18-Nov-24	BUY	5,845	Result Update
03-Feb-25	BUY	5,250	Top Picks
10-Feb-25	BUY	5,285	Result Update

Source: Axis Securities Research



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HOLD	Between 10% and -10%
SELL	Less than -10%
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock, but we refrain from assigning valuation and recommendation.
UNDER REVIEW	We will revisit our recommendation, valuation and estimates on the stock following recent events
NO STANCE	We do not have any forward-looking estimates, valuation or recommendation for the stock

Note: Returns stated in the rating scale are our internal benchmark.