# ADD

**Blue Dart Express** 

# Sluggish quarter; surface to continue as growth driver

Logistics > Result Update > May 29, 2025

Blue Dart Express (BDE)'s Q4FY25 print was disappointing, with consol EBITDAM contracting by ~200bps and revenue growth at 7% YoY. Strong volume growth in the B2C segment (up 19% YoY) is heartening, along with management commentary around the surface business not being margin dilutive. We expect contribution from surface to continue inching up going forward (up by 2ppt in FY25), as we bake in 10% revenue CAGR over FY25-28, with margin improving by ~200bps on the back of improving freighter utilization and operating leverage. Factoring in the Q4 miss, we cut FY26E/27E EBITDA by 6%/4%, respectively, and trim Mar-26E TP by ~6% to Rs6,650 (based on DCF methodology), implying FY27E EV/EBITDA of 13x and P/E of 36x (LTA of 14x EV/EBITDA and 44x 2-year forward PER). We maintain ADD.

#### Subdued performance

BDE logged consol revenue at Rs14.2bn (up by 7% YoY). Volume/Shipments for the quarter stood at 331k metric ton/92mn, growing 11%/0% YoY, with blended realization per parcel and blended realization per kg growing at 7% and -4% YoY, respectively. Given its higher growth profile, surface now contributes ~35% of revenue. EBITDA stood at Rs2.1bn (down 6% YoY). EBITDAM contracted by 205bps YoY/80bps QoQ, mainly due to subdued gross margin (down by 170bps YoY). D&A expenses increased 10% YoY, leading to operating margin contracting by 230bps. PAT stood at Rs552mn (down 29% YoY) owing to negative operating leverage. OCF/EBITDA stood at 99% for FY25. Capex for FY25 was Rs2.5bn (vs Rs2.7bn in FY24). BDE has declared a final dividend of Rs25/sh.

#### **Earnings call KTAs**

1) The management expects to continue tracking its high single-digit to low double-digit volume growth trajectory in coming quarters, and clock margin improvement on the back of operating leverage and yield improvement (particularly in the Guwahati lane, which is currently below par). 2) Surface contribution has increased by 2ppt in FY25, with products like Dart Plus and E-tail delivery solution seeing fast growth. The mgmt is confident of achieving healthy growth in B2C, as its presence in the niche segment is not materially impacted by the industry slowdown. 3) The Guwahati lane has seen significant improvement in volume originating from the North East, helping improve utilization. 4) The mgmt highlighted that new aircraft have reached optimum utilization levels (85-90%). 5) Despite improving road efficiency, the mgmt does not expect any major shift to road (from air) due to the urgency and nature of demand (via air). 6) Margin decline YoY was due to higher expenses accruing from operationalizing new aircraft. Surface margins though do not have a dilutive impact. 7) FY26 capex will be toward replacement, upgradation, and capacity expansion, with plans to add facilities nationwide (particularly the West, South) by way of lease. 8) B2B volume grew 10% and B2C grew 19% in O4. Revenue mix for B2B/B2C stood at 73/27%, respectively.

Blue Dart Express:	Financial Sr	apshot (Co	onsolidated	I)	
Y/E March (Rs mn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue	52,678	57,202	62,997	69,227	76,150
EBITDA	8,528	8,726	10,324	11,765	13,094
Adj. PAT	3,010	2,524	3,532	4,539	5,259
Adj. EPS (Rs)	126.8	106.4	148.8	191.3	221.6
EBITDA margin (%)	16.2	15.3	16.4	17.0	17.2
EBITDA growth (%)	(9.0)	2.3	18.3	14.0	11.3
Adj. EPS growth (%)	(18.8)	(16.1)	39.9	28.5	15.9
RoE (%)	23.6	17.3	21.2	23.6	23.1
RoIC (%)	34.9	28.3	45.1	72.7	115.9
P/E (x)	52.3	62.4	44.6	34.7	30.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	18.6	18.2	15.3	13.5	12.1
P/B (x)	11.5	10.1	8.9	7.6	6.4
FCFF yield (%)	2.4	3.0	3.5	3.9	4.9

Source: Company, Emkay Research



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#### CMP (Rs): 6,639 | TP (Rs): 6,650

Target Price – 12M	Mar-26
Change in TP (%)	(6.3)
Current Reco.	ADD
Previous Reco.	ADD
Upside/(Downside) (%)	0.2
Stock Data	BDE IN
	0,400

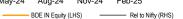
52-week High (Rs)	9,489
52-week Low (Rs)	5,365
Shares outstanding (mn)	23.7
Market-cap (Rs bn)	158
Market-cap (USD mn)	1,842
Net-debt, FY26E (Rs mn)	(2,054.7)
ADTV-3M (mn shares)	0
ADTV-3M (Rs mn)	157.8
ADTV-3M (USD mn)	1.8
Free float (%)	0.0
Nifty-50	24,833.6
INR/USD	85.5

#### Shareholding, Mar-25

Promoters (%)	75.0
FPIs/MFs (%)	5.5/13.0

Price Performance							
(%)	1M	3M	12M				
Absolute	3.8	10.7	(9.7)				
Rel. to Nifty	1.8	(1.4)	(17.5)				





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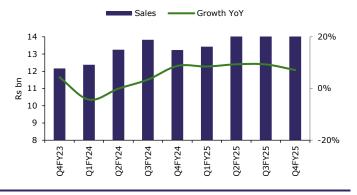
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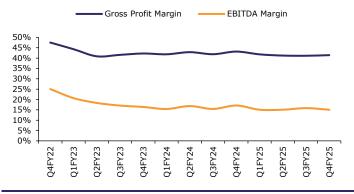
# **Story in Charts**

#### Exhibit 1: Q4 consolidated sales grew 7% YoY



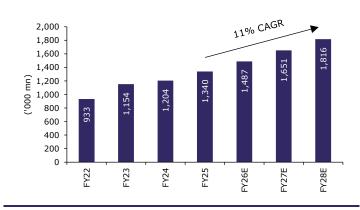
Source: Company, Emkay Research

#### Exhibit 3: Gross / EBITDA margin contracted on YoY basis



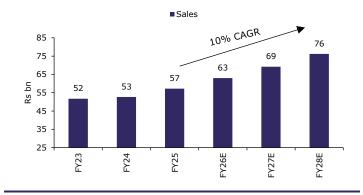
Source: Company, Emkay Research

#### Exhibit 5: We anticipate 11% volume CAGR for FY25-28E



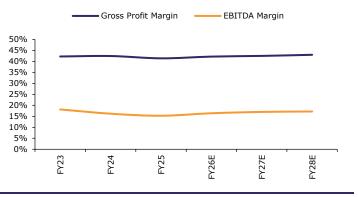
Source: Company, Emkay Research

#### Exhibit 2: We expect sales CAGR of 10% over FY25-28E



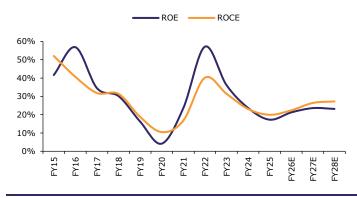
Source: Company, Emkay Research

#### Exhibit 4: We expect EBITDAM to expand by 200bps over FY25-28E



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 6: Return ratios are unlikely to see the pandemic peaks due to freighter addition



Source: Company, Emkay Research

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#### Exhibit 7: Summary of quarterly financials (Consolidated)

(Rs mn)	Q4FY24	Q3FY25	Q4FY25	YoY	QoQ	FY24	FY25	YoY
Net sales	13,229	15,117	14,173	7%	-6%	52,678	57,202	9%
Operating Expenses	(10,969)	(12,725)	(12,042)	10%	-5%	(44,151)	(48,476)	9.8%
Freight, handling and service costs	7,520	8,898	8,301	10%	-7%	30,321	33,526	10.6%
Employee Costs	2,264	2,411	2,397	6%	-1%	9,071	9,681	6.7%
Other operating Expenses	1,186	1,415	1,344	13%	-5%	4,759	5,270	10.7%
Gross Profit	5,709	6,219	5,872	3%	-6%	22,358	23,676	5.9%
EBITDA	2,260	2,392	2,131	-6%	-11%	8,528	8,726	2.3%
- Margin	17.1%	15.8%	15.0%			16.2%	15.3%	
Depreciation	1,127	1,213	1,243	10%	2%	4,329	4,849	12.0%
EBIT	1,132	1,179	888	-22%	-25%	4,199	3,877	-7.7%
Other Income	111	120	123	11%	3%	508	420	-17.4%
Interest	(194)	(206)	(200)	3%	-3%	(781)	(824)	5.5%
Extra ordinary items								
РВТ	1,049	1,093	810	-23%	-26%	3,927	3,472	-11.6%
Tax	272	283	259	-5%	-8%	917	948	3.4%
PAT	778	810	552	-29%	-32%	3,010	2,524	-16.1%
Adj PAT	778	810	552	-29%	-32%	3,010	2,524	-16.1%
EPS (Rs)	32.8	34.1	23.2	-29%	-32%	127	106	-16.1%

(%)	Q4FY24	Q3FY25	Q4FY25	YoY	QoQ	FY24	FY25	YoY
Gross margin	43.2%	41.1%	41.4%	(173)	29	42.4%	41.4%	(105)
EBIDTAM	17.1%	15.8%	15.0%	(204)	(79)	16.2%	15.3%	(93)
EBITM	8.6%	7.8%	6.3%	(229)	(153)	8.0%	6.8%	(119)
EBTM	7.9%	7.2%	5.7%	(221)	(151)	7.5%	6.1%	(138)
PATM	5.9%	5.4%	3.9%	(199)	(147)	5.7%	4.4%	(130)

Source: Company, Emkay Research

#### Exhibit 8: Actuals vs estimates (Q4FY25)

(Rs mn)	Actual	Estimate	Consensus	Vari	ation
		(Emkay)	estimate		
			(Bloomberg)	Emkay	Consensus
Revenue	14,173	14,520	14,495	-2%	-2%
EBITDA	2,131	2,419	2,073	-12%	3%
EBITDA margin	15.0%	16.7%	14%	-162 bps	74 bps
PAT	552	854	751	-35%	-27%

Source: Company, Emkay Research; Note: Consensus estimates are a combination of standalone and consolidated numbers of BDE

## Exhibit 9: Change in estimates

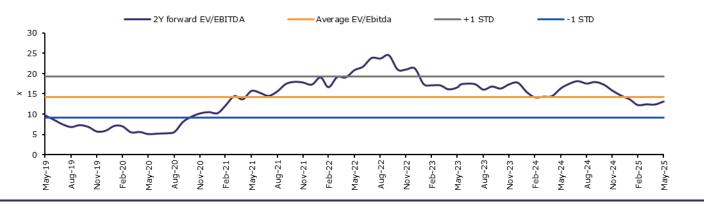
Particulars	FY26E		FY27E			FY28E			
(Rs mn)	Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change
Revenue	63,368	62,997	-0.6%	69,635	69,227	-0.6%	NA	76,150	NA
EBITDA	10,975	10,324	-5.9%	12,236	11,765	-3.8%	NA	13,094	NA
EBITDA margin (%)	17.3	16.4	-93 bps	17.6	17.0	-58 bps	NA	17.2	NA
РАТ	4,167	3,532	-15.2%	4,923	4,539	-7.8%	NA	5,259	NA

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Particulars (Rs mn)	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY30E	FY35E
Revenue	57,202	62,997	69,227	76,150	88,377	129,854
NOPLAT	2,818	3,665	4,672	5,293	6,316	10,250
Non-cash items	4,849	5,418	5,512	6,008	6,250	8,960
Change in WC	(786)	(645)	(215)	(239)	(226)	(332)
Сарех	(2,539)	(2,500)	(3,500)	(3,000)	(1,500)	(2,464)
FCFF	4,343	5,938	6,468	8,062	10,840	16,414
WACC	12.0%					
Terminal growth	6%					
5						
PV of CFs (FY24-35E)	57,785					
PV of terminal value	99,695					
Total EV	157,479					
(Less) Net Debt	(2,045)					
Total Equity value	159,524					
Total no of shares - Mar-25 (mn)	24					
Target price - Mar 26E (Rs)	6,650					

Source: Company, Emkay Research

### Exhibit 11: BDE is currently trading below its 5-year LTA EV/EBITDA (2Y fwd)



Source: Company, Emkay Research

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# **Blue Dart Express: Consolidated Financials and Valuations**

Profit & Loss					
Y/E March (Rs mn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue	52,678	57,202	62,997	69,227	76,150
Revenue growth (%)	1.8	8.6	10.1	9.9	10.0
EBITDA	8,528	8,726	10,324	11,765	13,094
EBITDA growth (%)	(9.0)	2.3	18.3	14.0	11.3
Depreciation & Amortization	4,329	4,849	5,418	5,512	6,008
EBIT	4,199	3,876	4,907	6,254	7,086
EBIT growth (%)	(22.7)	(7.7)	26.6	27.5	13.3
Other operating income	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	508	420	462	508	559
Financial expense	781	824	640	686	606
РВТ	3,927	3,472	4,728	6,076	7,039
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Taxes	917	948	1,196	1,537	1,781
Minority interest	0	0	0	0	0
Income from JV/Associates	0	0	0	0	0
Reported PAT	3,010	2,524	3,532	4,539	5,259
PAT growth (%)	(18.8)	(16.1)	39.9	28.5	15.9
Adjusted PAT	3,010	2,524	3,532	4,539	5,259
Diluted EPS (Rs)	126.8	106.4	148.8	191.3	221.6
Diluted EPS growth (%)	(18.8)	(16.1)	39.9	28.5	15.9
DPS (Rs)	30.0	25.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
Dividend payout (%)	23.6	23.5	40.3	31.4	27.1
EBITDA margin (%)	16.2	15.3	16.4	17.0	17.2
EBIT margin (%)	8.0	6.8	7.8	9.0	9.3
Effective tax rate (%)	23.3	27.3	25.3	25.3	25.3
NOPLAT (pre-IndAS)	3,219	2,818	3,665	4,672	5,293
Shares outstanding (mn)	24	24	24	24	24

	-	-			
Y/E March (Rs mn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Share capital	238	238	238	238	238
Reserves & Surplus	13,435	15,353	17,461	20,576	24,411
Net worth	13,673	13,248	15,358	18,473	22,308
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0
Non-current liab. & prov.	(1,045)	(1,046)	(1,046)	(1,046)	(1,046)
Total debt	2,547	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total liabilities & equity	23,357	24,614	25,722	27,838	30,672
Net tangible fixed assets	5,897	6,340	10,469	8,352	5,730
Net intangible assets	698	576	576	576	576
Net ROU assets	7,062	6,857	7,561	12,202	19,706
Capital WIP	735	766	766	766	766
Goodwill	-	-	-	-	-
Investments [JV/Associates]	3,073	3,858	3,858	3,858	3,858
Cash & equivalents	1,662	1,673	4,055	2,966	570
Current assets (ex-cash)	9,865	11,145	12,484	13,445	14,512
Current Liab. & Prov.	10,207	10,967	11,661	12,406	13,235
NWC (ex-cash)	(342)	178	823	1,038	1,278
Total assets	23,357	24,614	25,722	27,837	30,672
Net debt	885	327	(2,055)	(966)	1,430
Capital employed	23,357	24,614	25,722	27,838	30,672
Invested capital	10,826	9,118	7,142	5,704	3,431
BVPS (Rs)	576.2	657.0	745.8	877.1	1,038.7
Net Debt/Equity (x)	0.1	-	(0.1)	-	0.1
Net Debt/EBITDA (x)	0.1	-	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.1
Interest coverage (x)	6.0	5.2	8.4	9.9	12.6
RoCE (%)	30.9	25.4	28.8	31.8	30.9

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Cash flows					
Y/E March (Rs mn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
PBT (ex-other income)	3,419	3,053	4,267	5,568	6,481
Others (non-cash items)	-	-	-	-	-
Taxes paid	(636)	(830)	(1,366)	(1,506)	(1,602)
Change in NWC	870	(521)	(645)	(215)	(239)
Operating cash flow	8,763	7,375	8,313	10,045	11,253
Capital expenditure	(5,013)	(2,654)	(2,796)	(3,859)	(3,495)
Acquisition of business	(1,364)	(785)	0	0	0
Interest & dividend income	0	0	0	0	0
Investing cash flow	(5,869)	(3,019)	(2,334)	(3,351)	(2,937)
Equity raised/(repaid)	0	0	0	0	0
Debt raised/(repaid)	47	(547)	0	0	0
Payment of lease liabilities	(39)	93	(1,704)	(5,641)	(8,505)
Interest paid	(781)	(824)	(640)	(686)	(606)
Dividend paid (incl tax)	(712)	(593)	(1,424)	(1,424)	(1,424)
Others	(3,984)	(3,377)	(4,385)	(5,385)	(5,384)
Financing cash flow	(5,468)	(5,248)	(8,153)	(13,135)	(15,918)
Net chg in Cash	(2,574)	(892)	(2,174)	(6,442)	(7,602)
OCF	8,763	7,375	8,313	10,045	11,253
Adj. OCF (w/o NWC chg.)	7,892	7,896	8,959	10,260	11,492
FCFF	3,750	4,721	5,517	6,186	7,757
FCFE	2,969	3,897	4,877	5,500	7,152
OCF/EBITDA (%)	102.8	84.5	80.5	85.4	85.9
FCFE/PAT (%)	98.6	154.4	138.1	121.2	136.0
FCFF/NOPLAT (%)	116.5	167.5	150.5	132.4	146.5

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Y/E March	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
P/E (x)	52.3	62.4	44.6	34.7	30.0
EV/CE(x)	9.8	9.0	8.0	6.9	5.9
P/B (x)	11.5	10.1	8.9	7.6	6.4
EV/Sales (x)	3.0	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	18.6	18.2	15.3	13.5	12.1
EV/EBIT(x)	37.7	40.9	32.3	25.3	22.4
EV/IC (x)	14.6	17.4	22.2	27.8	46.2
FCFF yield (%)	2.4	3.0	3.5	3.9	4.9
FCFE yield (%)	1,884.7	2,473.9	3,096.0	3,491.4	4,540.0
Dividend yield (%)	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.9
DuPont-RoE split					
Net profit margin (%)	5.7	4.4	5.6	6.6	6.9
Total asset turnover (x)	3.4	3.4	3.5	4.1	5.7
Assets/Equity (x)	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.6
RoE (%)	23.6	17.3	21.2	23.6	23.1
DuPont-RoIC					
NOPLAT margin (%)	6.1	4.9	5.8	6.7	7.0
IC turnover (x)	5.7	5.7	7.7	10.8	16.7
RoIC (%)	34.9	28.3	45.1	72.7	115.9
Operating metrics					
Core NWC days	(2.4)	1.1	4.8	5.5	6.1
Total NWC days	(2.4)	1.1	4.8	5.5	6.1
Fixed asset turnover	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
Opex-to-revenue (%)	26.3	26.1	25.8	25.5	25.8

Source: Company, Emkay Research

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## **RECOMMENDATION HISTORY – DETAILS**

Date	Closing Price (INR)	TP (INR)	Rating	Analyst
08-Apr-25	6,072	7,100	Add	Anshul Agrawal
19-Feb-25	6,118	7,100	Add	Anshul Agrawal
31-Jan-25	6,580	7,100	Add	Anshul Agrawal
24-Nov-24	7,501	6,900	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
13-Nov-24	7,441	6,900	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
22-Oct-24	7,977	7,400	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
08-Oct-24	8,594	7,400	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
20-Aug-24	7,979	7,050	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
19-Jul-24	8,208	7,050	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
07-Jul-24	8,227	6,700	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
03-May-24	6,822	6,400	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
08-Apr-24	6,012	6,350	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
22-Feb-24	6,231	7,000	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
24-Jan-24	6,875	7,000	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
15-Jan-24	7,267	7,350	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
07-Jan-24	7,417	7,350	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
24-Dec-23	7,342	7,250	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal
01-Dec-23	7,061	7,250	Reduce	Anshul Agrawal

#### **RECOMMENDATION HISTORY - TREND**



Source: Company, Bloomberg, Emkay Research

Source: Company, Emkay Research

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