REDUCE Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail



New entity can unlock value; remnant still needs investment; REDUCE

Retail > Company Update > April 23, 2024

TARGET PRICE (Rs): 230

ABFRL's board has approved the demerger of its Madura business into a new entity – ABLBL, upon the requisite regulatory approvals over the next 9-12 months. In our view, this move should unlock value through better capital allocation and improved investor interest for the two businesses individually. Post de-merger, ABFRL plans to raise Rs25bn in the remnant entity, to support growth/debt reduction, while new entity ABLBL should generate healthy cash flows. Debt allocation of Rs10bn to ABLBL (33% of overall debt) is in line with its asset mix and regulatory conditions. ABLBL has a strong track-record of delivering low-teens earnings CAGR along with a healthy return profile of 25-30%, and the demerger has potential to drive a ~15% re-rating. But remaining businesses (Value Retail + Ethnic + D2C + Luxury) will need investments in the near term. We remain conservative and retain REDUCE on ABFRL; we will watch for margin gains in the remnant entity before turning constructive on the stock.

| Aditya Birla Fashion | & Retail: F | inancial Sr | napshot (Co | onsolidated |) |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| Y/E Mar (Rs mn) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| Revenue | 81,362 | 124,179 | 142,136 | 180,044 | 215,597 |
| EBITDA | 10,999 | 14,936 | 15,280 | 21,760 | 28,077 |
| Adj. PAT | (1,087) | (360) | (6,059) | (4,724) | (2,407) |
| Adj. EPS (Rs) | (1.2) | (0.4) | (5.6) | (4.4) | (2.2) |
| EBITDA margin (%) | 13.5 | 12.0 | 10.8 | 12.1 | 13.0 |
| EBITDA growth (%) | 98.3 | 35.8 | 2.3 | 42.4 | 29.0 |
| Adj. EPS growth (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| RoE (%) | (4.0) | (1.2) | (16.0) | (11.9) | (6.6) |
| RoIC (%) | 3.1 | 5.8 | (2.0) | 1.8 | 6.0 |
| P/E (x) | (207.8) | (634.5) | (42.6) | (54.7) | (107.3) |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 21.0 | 16.2 | 18.8 | 13.3 | 10.3 |
| P/B (x) | 8.1 | 6.8 | 6.1 | 6.9 | 7.4 |
| FCFF yield (%) | 3.6 | (2.4) | (6.1) | 4.6 | 6.5 |

Source: Company, Emkay Research

ABLBL: Improved capital allocation/investor interest offer re-rating potential

Madura Fashion and Lifestyle (ARR: Rs80bn), comprising lifestyle brands, casual wear brands, sportswear, and innerwear business, will be transferred to the newly de-merged entity – Aditya Birla Lifestyle Brands (ABLBL). ABLBL's portfolio has potential to deliver mid-teens EBITDA CAGR in the medium term, with a healthy ROCE profile of 25-30%. It generates $\sim 70\%$ value for our overall SOTP, at 22x FY26E EBITDA. We believe this business has scope for a re-rating, with improved capital allocation and investor interest. Good growth businesses similar to ABLBL trade at $\sim 30x$ EBITDA vs. 22x that we assign to ABLBL in the overall SOTP; this provides a potential re-rating of $\sim 20\%$ in ABLBL or $\sim 15\%$ in overall SOTP.

Post-demerger ABFRL: Capital infusion to fund growth; focus on consolidation

The value retail, ethnic wear portfolio and other luxury/digital brands will be retained by the existing ABFRL (ARR: Rs70bn). It is likely to raise growth capital of Rs25bn for infusing strength into the balance sheet to take care of growth prospects. Pantaloons currently contributes almost the entire value for this segment, at \sim 30% to the overall SOTP, as we largely value the Ethnic and D2C business at cost. After a series of acquisitions, ABFRL's focus is on consolidation and driving more value in the existing business segments.

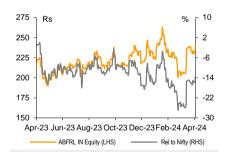
Analyst Call KTAs: 1) Promoters remain committed to participate in the Rs25bn equity raise, and funds are likely to be used for growth/debt repayment. Preference for growth-related allocation will be in this order: Ethnic-wear, Value Retail and, then, Luxury. 2) The TCNS merger is a pre-condition to this scheme, and Management expects the merger process to close within the next 4 months. The current demerger is expected to be completed within 9-12 months. 3) All segments are run by separate CEOs and Management is likely to analyze & announce an appropriate management structure for the two entities in the next 6-12 months. 4) ABLBL, with its better return profile, is likely to eliminate debt over the next 2/3 years. 5) The post-demerger ABFRL debt of Rs20bn includes Rs15bn of long-term debt, with the balance being short-term debt.

| Target Price – 12M | Mar-25 |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Change in TP (%) | NA |
| Current Reco. | REDUCE |
| Previous Reco. | REDUCE |
| Upside/(Downside) (%) | (4.5) |
| CMP (22-Apr-24) (Rs) | 240.8 |

| Stock Data | Ticker |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| 52-week High (Rs) | 266 |
| 52-week Low (Rs) | 184 |
| Shares outstanding (mn) | 1,015.0 |
| Market-cap (Rs bn) | 244 |
| Market-cap (USD mn) | 2,931 |
| Net-debt, FY24E (Rs mn) | 28,996 |
| ADTV-3M (mn shares) | 7 |
| ADTV-3M (Rs mn) | 1,566.1 |
| ADTV-3M (USD mn) | 18.8 |
| Free float (%) | 35.0 |
| Nifty-50 | 22,336 |
| INR/USD | 83.4 |
| Shareholding, Mar-24 | |
| Promoters (%) | 51.9 |
| FPIs/MFs (%) | 19.3/15.1 |

| Price Performance | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------|-----|--------|--|--|--|--|--|
| (%) | 1M | 3M | 12M | | | | | |
| Absolute | 17.2 | 6.6 | 9.7 | | | | | |
| Rel. to Nifty | 16.0 | 3.0 | (13.5) | | | | | |

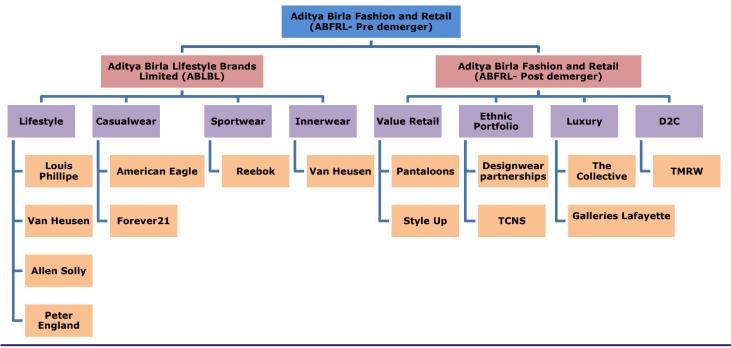
1-Year share price trend (Rs)



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Exhibit 1: ABFRL's brand portfolio structure post proposed demerger



Source: Emkay Research

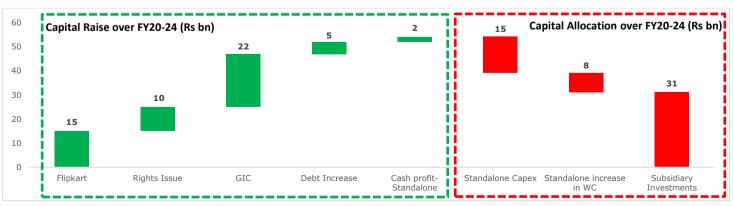
Exhibit 2: Key financial expectations for ABLBL (new entity) and ABFRL (post-demerger)

| | | | | CAGR (%) | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|----------|
| ABLBL - New Entity (Rs bn) | FY20N | FY24E | FY26E | FY20-24E | FY24-26E |
| Revenue | 53 | 81 | 110 | 11.4 | 16.2 |
| EBITDA (Pre-IndAS) | 4.5 | 6.6 | 9.1 | 10.0 | 17.7 |
| EBITDA margin (%) | 8.5 | 8.1 | 8.3 | | |
| Capital Employed | 17 | 23 | 28 | | |
| Goodwill | 7 | 7 | 7 | | |
| RoCE (excl. Goodwill, %) | 46 | 43 | 44 | | |
| ROCE (incl. Goodwill, %) | 27 | 29 | 33 | | |

| | | | | CAGR (%) | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|----------|
| ABFRL (post-demerger) | FY20N | FY24E | FY26E | FY20-24E | FY24-26E |
| Revenue | 40 | 65 | 112 | 12.8 | 30.7 |
| EBITDA (Pre-IndAS) | 2.7 | -3.1 | 1.0 | | |
| EBITDA margin (%) | 6.6 | -4.8 | 0.9 | | |
| Capital Employed | 21 | 48 | 36 | | |
| Goodwill | 12 | 27 | 27 | | |
| RoCE (exl. Goodwill, %) | 29 | -15 | 10 | | |
| ROCE (incl. Goodwill, %) | 13 | -7 | 3 | | |

Source: Company (Analyst Day PPT- FY20N numbers), Emkay Research (Pre-IndAS EBITDA numvers; RoCE has been caluculated by dividing EBITDA with Capital Employed

Exhibit 3: Capital raise and allocation by ABFRL over FY20-24; major allocation remains towards inorganic acquisitions (subsidiary investments)



Source: Company, Emkay Research

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Exhibit 4: Peer Comparison

| Companies | Price (Rs/sh) | Mcap (Rs bn) | Reco | Target Price | EPS (Rs) | | P/E (x) | | EV / EBITDA (x)* | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|----------|-------|---------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | (2, 2) | () | | (Rs/sh) | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| Titan Company | 3,603 | 3,199 | Buy | 4,350 | 40.4 | 52.9 | 66.7 | 89.1 | 68.1 | 54.0 | 58.6 | 45.0 | 36.5 |
| Page Industries | 35,500 | 396 | Reduce | 36,300 | 527.9 | 609.4 | 725.5 | 67.2 | 58.3 | 48.9 | 42.9 | 37.7 | 32.1 |
| Jubilant FoodWorks | 440 | 290 | Sell | 420 | 4.3 | 5.3 | 6.7 | 101.3 | 83.0 | 65.4 | 25.5 | 22.2 | 19.0 |
| Devyani International | 163 | 197 | Reduce | 165 | 0.7 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 246.1 | 107.4 | 70.2 | 30.9 | 23.7 | 18.5 |
| ABFRL | 242 | 246 | Reduce | 230 | -5.6 | -4.4 | -2.2 | NA | NA | NA | 17.5 | 12.3 | 9.5 |
| Westlife Foodworld | 816 | 127 | Buy | 900 | 4.4 | 4.9 | 10.0 | 183.9 | 166.9 | 81.8 | 33.8 | 30.1 | 22.5 |
| Sapphire Foods | 1,474 | 94 | Buy | 1,700 | 8.7 | 19.2 | 28.6 | 169.2 | 76.9 | 51.5 | 19.6 | 15.2 | 11.9 |
| Go Fashion | 1,143 | 62 | Buy | 1,350 | 15.2 | 19.4 | 27.0 | 75.4 | 59.0 | 42.4 | 25.1 | 20.5 | 15.7 |
| Ethos | 2,398 | 59 | Buy | 2,950 | 34.6 | 41.4 | 52.7 | 69.4 | 58.0 | 45.5 | 35.9 | 26.9 | 20.1 |
| Senco Gold | 980 | 76 | Buy | 1,100 | 23.1 | 29.2 | 36.9 | 42.5 | 33.6 | 26.6 | 21.8 | 17.6 | 14.2 |
| Varun Beverages | 1,433 | 1,862 | Add | 1,500 | 15.8 | 20.4 | 26.8 | 90.6 | 70.2 | 53.4 | 52.7 | 41.8 | 33.7 |
| Aditya Vision | 3,300 | 42 | Buy | 5,150 | 66.6 | 93.2 | 133.7 | 49.5 | 35.4 | 24.7 | 26.4 | 19.8 | 14.8 |

Source: Company, Emkay Research; *Post-IndAS116 EBITDA

Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail: Consolidated Financials and Valuations

| Profit & Loss | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Y/E Mar (Rs mn) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| Revenue | 81,362 | 124,179 | 142,136 | 180,044 | 215,597 |
| Revenue growth (%) | 55.0 | 52.6 | 14.5 | 26.7 | 19.7 |
| EBITDA | 10,999 | 14,936 | 15,280 | 21,760 | 28,077 |
| EBITDA growth (%) | 98.3 | 35.8 | 2.3 | 42.4 | 29.0 |
| Depreciation & Amortization | 9,970 | 12,270 | 16,486 | 20,405 | 23,541 |
| EBIT | 1,029 | 2,666 | (1,206) | 1,355 | 4,536 |
| EBIT growth (%) | 0.0 | 159.1 | (145.2) | 0.0 | 234.9 |
| Other operating income | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other income | 1,006 | 1,165 | 1,900 | 2,090 | 2,299 |
| Financial expense | 3,507 | 4,724 | 8,904 | 10,486 | 10,989 |
| PBT | (1,473) | (893) | (8,211) | (7,042) | (4,153) |
| Extraordinary items | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Taxes | (266) | (230) | (1,043) | (1,408) | (1,047) |
| Minority interest | 96 | 235 | 1,009 | 750 | 500 |
| Income from JV/Associates | 23 | 68 | 100 | 160 | 200 |
| Reported PAT | (1,087) | (360) | (6,059) | (4,724) | (2,407) |
| PAT growth (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Adjusted PAT | (1,087) | (360) | (6,059) | (4,724) | (2,407) |
| Diluted EPS (Rs) | (1.2) | (0.4) | (5.6) | (4.4) | (2.2) |
| Diluted EPS growth (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| DPS (Rs) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Dividend payout (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EBITDA margin (%) | 13.5 | 12.0 | 10.8 | 12.1 | 13.0 |
| EBIT margin (%) | 1.3 | 2.1 | (0.8) | 0.8 | 2.1 |
| Effective tax rate (%) | 18.0 | 25.7 | 12.7 | 20.0 | 25.2 |
| NOPLAT (pre-IndAS) | 843 | 1,980 | (1,053) | 1,084 | 3,393 |
| Shares outstanding (mn) | 938.3 | 948.8 | 1,072.6 | 1,072.6 | 1,072.6 |

| Y/E Mar (Rs mn) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Share capital | 9,383 | 9,488 | 10,726 | 10,726 | 10,726 |
| Reserves & Surplus | 18,350 | 23,945 | 31,478 | 26,755 | 24,348 |
| Net worth | 27,733 | 33,433 | 42,204 | 37,480 | 35,073 |
| Minority interests | 152 | 27 | (1,082) | (1,992) | (2,692) |
| Deferred tax liability (net) | (4,033) | (4,149) | (5,814) | (6,749) | (7,786) |
| Total debt | 12,323 | 23,055 | 32,950 | 32,950 | 32,555 |
| Total liabilities & equity | 36,176 | 52,366 | 68,258 | 61,689 | 57,150 |
| Net tangible fixed assets | 6,312 | 10,091 | 13,314 | 15,179 | 16,988 |
| Net intangible assets | 6,940 | 13,935 | 14,413 | 14,895 | 15,376 |
| Net ROU assets | (3,452) | (6,439) | (11,994) | (19,235) | (27,142) |
| Capital WIP | 1,026 | 1,457 | 1,457 | 1,457 | 1,457 |
| Goodwill | 19,973 | 23,297 | 34,797 | 34,797 | 34,797 |
| Investments [JV/Associates] | 778 | 878 | 878 | 878 | 878 |
| Cash & equivalents | 7,287 | 8,835 | 3,954 | 1,156 | 800 |
| Current assets (ex-cash) | 50,363 | 68,440 | 83,696 | 99,755 | 116,719 |
| Current Liab. & Prov. | 53,057 | 68,707 | 72,839 | 87,774 | 103,303 |
| NWC (ex-cash) | (2,694) | (268) | 10,857 | 11,982 | 13,416 |
| Total assets | 36,176 | 52,366 | 68,258 | 61,689 | 57,150 |
| Net debt | 5,037 | 14,220 | 28,996 | 31,794 | 31,755 |
| Capital employed | 36,176 | 52,366 | 68,258 | 61,689 | 57,150 |
| Invested capital | 27,085 | 41,196 | 61,969 | 58,198 | 54,015 |
| BVPS (Rs) | 29.6 | 35.2 | 39.3 | 34.9 | 32.7 |
| Net Debt/Equity (x) | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| Net Debt/EBITDA (x) | 0.5 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.1 |
| Interest coverage (x) | 1.7 | 1.2 | 12.8 | 3.0 | 1.6 |
| RoCE (%) | 5.8 | 8.7 | 1.1 | 5.3 | 11.5 |

Source: Company, Emkay Research

| Cash flows | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Y/E Mar (Rs mn) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| PBT | (1,473) | (893) | (8,211) | (7,042) | (4,153) |
| Others (non-cash items) | 9,970 | 12,270 | 16,486 | 20,405 | 23,541 |
| Taxes paid | (179) | 113 | (622) | 473 | 10 |
| Change in NWC | 544 | (2,426) | (11,125) | (1,124) | (1,434) |
| Operating cash flow | 11,365 | 12,623 | 3,533 | 21,109 | 26,653 |
| Capital expenditure | (3,509) | (18,094) | (20,400) | (8,270) | (8,700) |
| Acquisition of business | (23) | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Interest & dividend income | 1,006 | 1,165 | 1,900 | 2,090 | 2,299 |
| Investing cash flow | (5,165) | (12,773) | (18,500) | (6,180) | (6,401) |
| Equity raised/(repaid) | 2,618 | 3,004 | 14,830 | 0 | 0 |
| Debt raised/(repaid) | 960 | 10,732 | 9,895 | 0 | (395) |
| Payment of lease liabilities | (7,979) | (10,088) | (12,094) | (14,957) | (17,993) |
| Interest paid | (1,364) | (1,695) | (3,209) | (3,295) | (2,620) |
| Dividend paid (incl tax) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Others | (1,846) | 4,003 | 665 | 525 | 400 |
| Financing cash flow | (7,612) | 5,955 | 10,087 | (17,727) | (20,608) |
| Net chg in Cash | (1,412) | 5,805 | (4,881) | (2,798) | (356) |
| OCF | 11,365 | 12,623 | 3,533 | 21,109 | 26,653 |
| Adj. OCF (w/o NWC chg.) | 10,820 | 15,049 | 14,658 | 22,233 | 28,087 |
| FCFF | 7,855 | (5,471) | (16,867) | 12,839 | 17,953 |
| FCFE | 5,354 | (9,030) | (23,872) | 4,442 | 9,263 |
| OCF/EBITDA (%) | 103.3 | 84.5 | 23.1 | 97.0 | 94.9 |
| FCFE/PAT (%) | (492.4) | 2,508.5 | 394.0 | (94.0) | (384.9) |
| FCFF/NOPLAT (%) | 931.5 | (276.3) | 1,601.5 | 1,184.8 | 529.1 |

| Source: | Company, | Emkay | Research |
|---------|----------|-------|----------|
| | | | |

| Valuations and key Ratios | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| Y/E Mar | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E | | | | |
| P/E (x) | (207.8) | (634.5) | (42.6) | (54.7) | (107.3) | | | | |
| P/CE(x) | 24.3 | 18.3 | 23.6 | 15.7 | 11.7 | | | | |
| P/B (x) | 8.1 | 6.8 | 6.1 | 6.9 | 7.4 | | | | |
| EV/Sales (x) | 2.8 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.3 | | | | |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 21.0 | 16.2 | 18.8 | 13.3 | 10.3 | | | | |
| EV/EBIT(x) | 214.4 | 87.1 | (228.3) | 205.4 | 61.3 | | | | |
| EV/IC (x) | 8.1 | 5.6 | 4.4 | 4.8 | 5.1 | | | | |
| FCFF yield (%) | 3.6 | (2.4) | (6.1) | 4.6 | 6.5 | | | | |
| FCFE yield (%) | 2.5 | (4.1) | (9.7) | 1.8 | 3.8 | | | | |
| Dividend yield (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | | | | |
| DuPont-RoE split | | | | | | | | | |
| Net profit margin (%) | (1.3) | (0.3) | (4.3) | (2.6) | (1.1) | | | | |
| Total asset turnover (x) | 2.3 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 3.6 | | | | |
| Assets/Equity (x) | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | | | | |
| RoE (%) | (4.0) | (1.2) | (16.0) | (11.9) | (6.6) | | | | |
| DuPont-RoIC | | | | | | | | | |
| NOPLAT margin (%) | 1.0 | 1.6 | (0.7) | 0.6 | 1.6 | | | | |
| IC turnover (x) | 3.0 | 3.6 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.8 | | | | |
| RoIC (%) | 3.1 | 5.8 | (2.0) | 1.8 | 6.0 | | | | |
| Operating metrics | | | | | | | | | |
| Core NWC days | (59.5) | (42.1) | (32.6) | (28.8) | (30.2) | | | | |
| Total NWC days | (12.1) | (0.8) | 27.9 | 24.3 | 22.7 | | | | |
| Fixed asset turnover | 2.1 | 2.7 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 3.1 | | | | |
| Opex-to-revenue (%) | 40.8 | 43.3 | 44.5 | 44.7 | 44.2 | | | | |

Source: Company, Emkay Research

RECOMMENDATION HISTORY - DETAILS

| Date | Closing Price (INR) | TP (INR) | Rating | Analyst |
|-----------|------------------------|----------|--------|-----------------|
| 07-Apr-24 | 237 | 230 | Reduce | Devanshu Bansal |
| 15-Feb-24 | 239 | 230 | Reduce | Devanshu Bansal |
| 10-Jan-24 | 227 | 220 | Reduce | Devanshu Bansal |
| 30-Nov-23 | 232 | 220 | Reduce | Devanshu Bansal |
| 11-Nov-23 | 217 | 220 | Hold | Devanshu Bansal |
| 08-Oct-23 | 219 | 220 | Hold | Devanshu Bansal |
| 06-Aug-23 | 210 | 215 | Hold | Devanshu Bansal |
| 10-Jul-23 | 215 | 215 | Hold | Devanshu Bansal |
| 23-May-23 | 195 | 215 | Hold | Devanshu Bansal |
| 07-May-23 | 214 | 250 | Hold | Devanshu Bansal |
| 09-Apr-23 | 216 | 250 | Hold | Devanshu Bansal |
| 23-Feb-23 | 231 | 295 | Buy | Devanshu Bansal |
| 08-Feb-23 | 250 | 295 | Buy | Devanshu Bansal |
| 09-Jan-23 | 274 | 365 | Buy | Devanshu Bansal |
| 05-Nov-22 | 329 | 380 | Buy | Devanshu Bansal |
| 06-Aug-22 | 278 | 360 | Buy | Devanshu Bansal |

Source: Company, Emkay Research

RECOMMENDATION HISTORY - TREND



Source: Company, Bloomberg, Emkay Research

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| ADD | 5-15% upside | |
| REDUCE | 5% upside to 15% downside | |
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