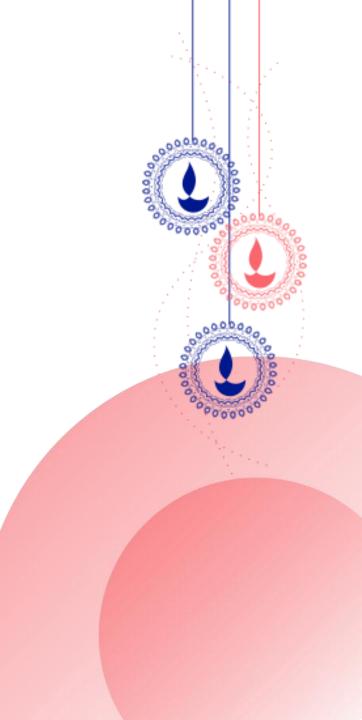


Samvat 2081

Fundamental Muhurat Picks







Wishing everyone Happy Diwali and a Prosperous Samvat 2081

Wishing everyone Happy Diwali and a Prosperous Samvat 2081

Indian Markets created history in Samvat 2080 by hitting milestone after milestone. The Nifty surpassed 26250 and BSE Sensex surpassed 85900 in September 2024, with both Indexes gaining around 25% during Samvat 2080. The BSE Midcap and Smallcap Index outperformed and gained 45% and 50% respectively. The up move in markets was exceptional considering the spread of Covid19 and subsequent lockdowns. The up move in markets was exceptional considering the spread of Covid19 and subsequent lockdowns. The up move in markets was exceptional considering geopolitical tensions, global weakness and global elevated interest rates. All class of investors drove the up move. While the FPIs set forth their conviction in Indian capital market by infusing Rs *** cr in equities YTD, the retail category wasn't behind with monthly SIP crossing Rs 23000 cr in September 2024. Samvat 2080 belonged to Autos (+60%), Metals (+43%), Oil & Gas (+60%), Realty (+72%), Pharma (+55%), Capital Goods (+50%) and Power (+85%).

Global Economy is stabilizing

Easing of inflation and evidence of the resilience of global commerce make us cautiously optimistic on the global economy. There is solid degree of confidence that the US has turned a corner on inflation with a 50bps cut with potential two more cuts coming this year and 100bps in 2025. In Europe, recession fears remain, but markets are gaining confidence that central banks, particularly the European Central Bank (ECB), have more room to maneuver following the Fed's recent 50-basis-point rate cut. The European Central Bank (ECB) has cut interest rates for four times this year. Asian economies look good driven by the People's Bank of China cutting its 14-day repo rate and reverse repo rates, cutting reserve requirement ratio (RRR) by 50bps, lowering mortgage rates for existing loans and increase its debt. Even Bank of Japan indicated that the bank is not rushing to hike rates. Monetary policy is thus turning a corner with an expected return to loosening in the majority of countries and regions.





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We are cautiously optimistic on India

India's macroeconomic position continues to be quite strong, with (1) a strong growth and BoP (currency) outlook and (2) a moderate, but improving fiscal and inflation (interest rates) outlook. Q1FY25 results and management commentary highlighted modest improvement in the laggard sectors of IT services and consumer staples. We expect continued improvement in the affordability equation for low-income households, driven by a combination of (1) a period of relatively stable product prices, after 4-5 years of relentless price increases and (2) a modest increase in household incomes. Until September 27, cumulative rainfall was 7% above long-term average indicating normal monsoon. CPI inflation in August picked up marginally to 3.7% on higher-than-expected food prices. We retain our call for a shallow rate cut cycle, starting in the December policy. GST collections, IIP numbers, trade figures, fiscal deficit, strength of INR and other indicators continue to remain strong. Crude prices are benign at USD 75/barrel. We expect real GDP growth rate of 6.9% in FY25E and 6.5% in FY26E factoring in (1) continued government capex (2) improvement in global situation and (3) gradual improvement in consumption.

Outlook and Valuation

Domestic inflows and non-institutional sentiment are unlikely to be affected by the rally in the Chinse market. India's domestic non-institutional investors will likely continue with their price-insensitive bidding/buying approach, as long as (1) they have strong conviction about high returns from the market or (2) as long as trailing returns look good. Institutional investors (MFs) have no option but to deploy the funds coming into domestic mutual funds, irrespective of valuation and/or conviction levels. Valuations are largely redundant in such a market.

Post-decent 19.8% earnings growth in FY24, we expect net profits of the Nifty-50 Index to grow by 6.7% (EPS of 1042) in FY25 and by 17.3% (EPS of 1222) in FY26. At 24700, Nifty trades at 23.7x FY25E and at 20.2x FY26E. FY25 will likely see more broad-based growth across sectors. However, the OMCs will likely drag down overall profits, as we expect their profits to normalize in FY25. We find most sectors and stocks quite overvalued with the degree of overvaluation ranging from (1) low for most large-cap consumer, IT services and pharmaceuticals to (2) medium in the investment space to (3) high in the case of several low-quality companies. As the broader market valuations are rich, opportunities arising from market correction can be used to add quality stocks (with attractive valuation) from long-term investment perspective. Based on our assessment of markets, sectors and stocks, we have identified eight potential stock ideas that are expected to do well in Samvat 2081. Happy Investing!





Wishing everyone Happy Diwali and a Prosperous Samvat 2081

TOP INVESTMENT IDEAS FOR SAMVAT 2081

Company	Rating	Price	Fair Value	Upside	Mkt Cap	EPS	(Rs.)	P/E	(x)	P/B	3 (x)	ROE	(%)
		(Rs.)*	(Rs.)	(%)	(Rs. bn)	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E
Aadhar Housing	BUY	439	550	25.3	197.1	27.6	34.2	15.9	12.8	2.6	2.2	16.9	17.6
Axis Bank	BUY	1,197	1,500	25.3	3569.4	94.8	107.1	12.6	11.2	1.8	1.6	15.8	15.6
Fiem Industries#	BUY	1,619	2,140	32.2	42.6	89.9	107.0	18.0	15.1	3.5	2.9	20.8	20.9
Gravita India	ADD	2,514	2,800	11.4	172.0	62.0	77.5	40.5	32.4	11.7	9.2	33.3	32.0
Godrej Agrovet	ADD	774	850	9.8	150.0	32.4	38.5	23.9	20.1	4.4	3.9	19.1	20.3
JB Chemicals	BUY	1891	2255	19.2	292.9	55.3	63.4	34.2	29.8	7.1	6.0	22.9	20.1
SH Kelkar	BUY	319	400	25.4	45.3	15.2	18.7	21.0	17.1	3.0	2.6	14.7	16.0
Zomato	BUY	257	315	22.6	2469.6	3.6	4.1	71.4	62.7	9.5	8.2	13.2	12.9

Source: Kotak Institutional Equities Research, # Kotak Securities – Private Client Group, *The above valuation summary is based on prices as on 18th October, 2024





Aadhar Housing Finance (AADHARHF)

CMP: Rs.439	Target: Rs.550
Time: 12 Months	BUY

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Investment Argument:

- Aadhar Housing Finance is a large affordable HFC. (Rs21,100 cr of AUM in FY24).
- The company has a 7% market share in the affordable segment.
- It has a long track-record, well-diversified geographical presence and customer profile.
- Its multipronged expansion and appraisal strategy will drive 21% AUM CAGR (FY24-27E).
- Stable margins and improving leverage will accelerate RoEs back to high-teens.
- Company stands out versus most peers due to a larger balance sheet, longer vintage and seasoning.
- Company has geographically diversified AUM mix with no state contributing more than 15%.
- Company has reported strong asset quality performance over the years.
- We maintain BUY rating and RGM-based FV of Rs550; at our FV, the stock will trade 3.1X book and 20X earnings June 2026E.

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Axis Bank (AXSB)

CMP: Rs.1197	Target: Rs.1500
Time: 12 Months	BUY

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Investment Argument:



- Business execution is on expected lines, with a focus on the GPS strategy to build a solid franchise.
- On deposits, management held its view that the initiatives taken are granular and focused, but they would deliver the desired outcomes to grow faster-than-industry average over time.
- On loan mix, the bank would continue to build a profitable portfolio and was comfortable delivering better risk-adjusted growth.
- Axis Bank reported 18% yoy earnings growth due to ~25% operating profit growth in Q2FY25.
- The asset quality ratio was stable, with slippages stable at ~2%.
- The bank is trading at valuations, which largely address most key concerns.
- AXSB has one of the best upsides, among large private banks at these levels.
- We maintain BUY with a FV of Rs1,500 (unchanged), valuing the bank at ~2.2X book and ~15X FY2026E EPS for RoEs of ~15%.

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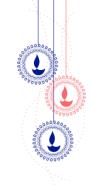
FIEM Industries (FIEM)

CMP: Rs. 1619	Target: Rs.2140
Time: 12 Months	BUY

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Investment Argument:



- Fiem is a leading tier-1 manufacture of automotive lighting and rear view mirrors, catering primarily to the two-wheeler OEMs.
- FIEM is well-placed to benefit from two-wheeler industry recovery.
- FIEM has strong presence with key players in the two-wheeler segment. The company also
 has strong presence with two-wheeler EV players.
- Rising LED lighting adoption in the automotive segment to aid revenue growth for FIEM. LED based lamps content per vehicle are higher as compared with the halogen lamp.
- The company is looking at leveraging its LED automotive lighting expertise and strong R&D in the four-wheeler segment.
- Passenger vehicle segment provides significant growth opportunity over the medium term.
- We expect FIEM's revenue to witness healthy growth over FY24-25E.
- We expect FIEM's earnings to grow at a healthy 19% CAGR over FY24-FY27E.
- Debt-free balance sheet; cash flow generation expected to remain robust.



To read detailed report dated 3th September 2024



Gravita India (GRAV)

CMP: Rs. 2514	Target: Rs.2800
Time: 12 Months	ADD

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Investment Argument:

- Gravita India is the market leader in India's emerging recycling industry with a focus on lead recycling. Its operations are spread across India & overseas.
- Organized segment's market share to expand significantly with regulatory tailwinds. Gravita is on best place to capture this opportunity.
- Penalties on battery OEMs for missing recycling obligations: Boost to recycling.
- GRAV is increasing its recycling capacity by ~72% to ~500 ktpa by FY27E.
- Company is foraying into new recycling segments rubber/paper/steel/copper and lithium which would drive the revenue growth going ahead.
- We expect earnings per share to grow by 31.8% in FY25E & 31.6% in FY26E.





To read detailed report dated 16th September 2024



Godrej Agrovet (GAVL)

CMP: Rs. 774	Target: Rs. 850
Time: 12 Months	ADD

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Investment Argument:

- Mixed near-term trends, promising longer-term outlook.
- Animal feed and downstream businesses: prices remain subdued.
- We believe there is strength in Astec's product pipeline—which we find promising.
- Palm oil duty benefit likely from Q3FY25.
- Godrej's ability to attract talent should help Astec continue to grow rapidly in CDMO.
- Q1FY25 consolidated earnings grew at a healthy double-digit pace yoy.
- We consider the acquisition of the 49% minority stake in GTFL an incremental positive.
- Expectation of healthy earnings growth in FY26 as well.
- We roll forward, build in stake purchase at GTFL & assign EV/EBITDA multiple of 15X to standalone crop protection; We maintain ADD rating after the recent rally.



To read detailed report dated 26th September 2024



JB Chemicals & Pharma (JBCP)

CMP: Rs. 1891	Target: Rs.2255
Time: 12 Months	BUY

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Investment Argument:

- JB Chemicals is a domestic formulations-focused company, coupled with a significant presence in export formulations and a burgeoning CMO business.
- Share of domestic formulations and CMO in overall sales has together increased from ~55% in FY2020 to ~67% in FY24.
- Ranked 22nd in the IPM as of FY2024, JB has five brands among India's top-300 brands, contributing 50%+ of domestic formulation sales.
- Robust CMO track record, with global leadership in manufacturing of lozenges.
- Domestic business: Healthy mix of legacy products and acquired brands to drive growth for JB Chemicals.
- We expect JB to deliver 14%, 19% and 22% revenue, EBITDA and PAT CAGRs, respectively, over FY24-27E.

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S H Kelkar and Company (SHKL)

CMP: Rs. 319	Target: Rs. 400
Time: 12 Months	BUY

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Investment Argument:

- Flavors & fragrances (F&F) supplier, starting to make inroads into global market.
- SHK is well-placed to drive double-digit revenue growth.
- A small but emerging contender in the vast F&F market.
- SHK has persevered for years before seeing initial success.
- SHK tiny relative to global majors, but its technical capabilities are reputable.
- Growth drivers: Secular growth in F&F market along with market share gains.
- We see a long runway for growth, given its established and sticky relationships.
- The large order win from Unilever bolsters confidence in management guidance.
- High entry barriers in the F&F industry make for an attractive industry structure.
- Potential for margin expansion higher-margin geographies & operating leverage.
- We reinstate coverage with a BUY rating & FV Rs400 (24X September 2026E P/E).



To read detailed report dated 24th September 2024



Zomato (ZOMATO)

CMP: Rs. 257	Target: Rs.315
Time: 12 Months	BUY

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Investment Argument:

- Zomato is one of India's largest food services platforms that connects customers, restaurant partners and delivery partners.
- Also, Its offerings include dining-out services, Loyalty programs, quick-commerce service (through subsidiary Blinkit) and others.
- Zomato has gross merchandise value share (~52%) versus Swiggy (~48%) in CY23.
- Zomato has wide geographical presence in 750 cities vs 660 cities (Swiggy) as on CY23
- Blinkit is a rapidly evolving business given high growth rates, expansion to new cities and continuous new category addition.
- We expect Zomato to deliver revenue CAGR of 44% over FY24-27E and strong improvement in EBITDA margin over same period.

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Rating Scale (Private Client Group)

RATING SCALE (PRIVATE CLIENT GROUP)

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BUY	_	We expect the stock to deliver more than 15% returns over the next 12 months
ADD	_	We expect the stock to deliver 5% - 15% returns over the next 12 months
REDUCE	-	We expect the stock to deliver -5% - +5% returns over the next 12 months
SELL	-	We expect the stock to deliver < -5% returns over the next 12 months
NR	_	Not Rated. Kotak Securities is not assigning any rating or price target to the stock.
		The report has been prepared for information purposes only.
SUBSCRIBE	_	We advise investor to subscribe to the IPO.
RS	-	Rating Suspended. Kotak Securities has suspended the investment rating and price target for this stock, either because there is not a sufficient fundamental basis for determining, or there are legal, regulatory or policy constraints around publishing, an investment rating or target. The previous investment rating and price target, if any, are no longer in effect for this stock and should not be relied upon.
NA	_	Not Available or Not Applicable. The information is not available for display or is not applicable
NM	-	Not Meaningful. The information is not meaningful and is therefore excluded.
NOTE	-	Our target prices are with a 12-month perspective. Returns stated in the rating scale are our internal benchmark.





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