

Gujarat Gas

 BSE SENSEX
 S&P CNX

 74,227
 22,536

CMP: INR400

TP: INR475 (+19%)

Buy



Stock Info

Bloomberg	GUJGA IN
Equity Shares (m)	688
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	275 / 3.2
52-Week Range (INR)	690 / 360
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	3/-24/-29
12M Avg Val (INR M)	762
Free float (%)	39.1
-	

Financials Snapshot (INR b)

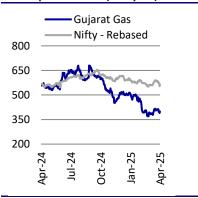
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Y/E March	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Sales	163.4	166.4	178.8
EBITDA	18.5	20.7	22.3
PAT	10.9	11.9	13.1
EPS (INR)	15.8	17.2	19.0
EPS Gr. (%)	-1.1	8.9	10.3
BV/Sh.(INR)	122.1	133.5	146.0
Ratios			
Net D:E	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
RoE (%)	13.5	13.5	13.6
RoCE (%)	18.7	18.4	18.5
Payout (%)	34.1	34.1	34.1
Valuations			
P/E (x)	25.3	23.2	21.0
P/BV (x)	3.3	3.0	2.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	14.3	12.6	11.4
Div. Yield (%)	1.3	1.5	1.6
FCF Yield (%)	1.9	2.5	3.2

Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Dec-24	Sep-24	Dec-23
Promoter	60.9	60.9	60.9
DII	21.2	21.4	21.0
FII	4.5	4.5	3.3
Others	13.4	13.2	14.8

FII Includes depository receipts

Stock's performance (one-year)



Twin tailwinds emerging!

- Valuation de-rating largely over, in our opinion: Over the last six months, GUJGA's share price has corrected 34%, with the stock now trading at 21x FY27E P/E. Weakness in the stock price was driven by 1) higher spot LNG prices leading to elevated raw material costs and 2) subdued industrial and commercial PNG volumes amid weak ceramic exports and weak competitiveness vs. other fuels like Propane. However, we now believe fundamentals are undergoing a transformative shift:
- Weaker crude and lower slope the twin emerging tailwinds: A weak crude price outlook together with a lower pricing slope for natural gas (given the impending LNG glut) will drive down gas costs and increase competitiveness vs. propane. While Brent crude prices averaged ~USD75.8/bbl in 4QFY25, we forecast Brent to average USD65/bbl in FY26/FY27 (earlier: USD70/bbl). We estimate every USD10/bbl decline in Brent prices reduces the landed cost of natural gas by USD2.3/mmbtu. Further, according to our discussions with the listed and unlisted India CGD companies, new long-term gas contracts are already being signed for a 1.0-1.3% lower slope given the expected surge in LNG supply in 2HFY26 and beyond.
- Estimate ~INR2-3/scm margin expansion scope amid favorable fundamentals: About 37%/ 27% of GUJGA's gas sourced is under long-term (majority Brent-linked)/spot contracts. We estimate that a USD10/bbl decline in crude prices and a simultaneous 1% decline in pricing slope can lead to an EBITDA margin improvement of INR2.8/scm for GUJGA. We think actual improvement might be lower as GUJGA might pass on some of the lower raw material cost benefits. Similarly, a USD1/mmbtu decline in spot LNG prices shall lead to an EBITDA margin improvement of INR1/scm for GUJGA. Also, we are building in a higher margin CNG segment to become 34% of GUJGA's total volumes (from 29% in FY24), which should further support blended margins.
- Valuations at par with long-term average: GUJGA's valuations have corrected 34% over the past six months, and the stock now trades at 23x 1-yr fwd P/E, slightly below its long-term average. We foresee limited downside from the current level amid the scope of margin expansion, robust CNG volume growth, and an expected uptick in Morbi volumes from 1QFY26. Additionally, our margin and volume estimates could see upside risks in case the fundamentals turn in favor of the company. We reiterate our BUY rating on GUJGA with a TP of INR475/sh.

Twin tailwinds of lower slope and weaker oil prices unfolding

- We view the following as twin tailwinds for GUJGA in the coming years: 1) Brent to average USD65/bbl in FY26/FY27 (earlier forecast: USD70/bbl, 4QFY25 average: USD75.8/bbl), 2) lower pricing slope as LNG global supply expands.
- With the majority of GUJGA's long-term (LT) contracts being Brent-linked (pricing: ~13-13.5% slope to Brent), falling crude prices should drive down gas costs and increase competitiveness compared to propane.
- The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates global oil demand to grow by 1mb/d in CY25, primarily driven by upcoming petrochemical plants in China. However, non-OPEC+ countries are expected to increase oil supply by 1.5mb/d in CY25. IEA previously estimated that even with voluntary cuts staying in place, global oil supply shall exceed demand by at least ~1mb/d. However, OPEC+'s decision to gradually unwind 2.2mb/d voluntary cuts by Apr'25 shall widen the gap.

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- Additionally, new import tariffs by the US on China shall adversely impact China's economic growth, which might lead to a decline in the estimated oil demand growth. Hence, we believe that downside risk to oil prices prevails, which shall be beneficial for CGDs.
- Moreover, with ~27% of the gas sourced by GUJGA being spot LNG, the company shall benefit from the anticipated lower spot LNG prices in 2HFY26 and beyond.

Margin expansion of ~INR2-3/scm driven by favorable fundamentals

- According to our channel checks, the slope for mid-term Brent-linked contracts currently tracks the following trend: contracts slope for FY26/FY27/FY28 is at ~15.0%/13.5%/12.0% of the Brent crude price.
- We have estimated the benefits of a lower slope and reduced Brent prices w.r.t. the long-term contracts for GUJGA, having ~37% LT gas contracts, the majority of which are Brent-linked.
- > Scenario 1: Brent price averaging USD75/bbl and pricing slope of 13.5%,
- Scenario 2: Brent price averaging USD65/bbl and pricing slope of 12.5%.
- We estimate that a USD10/bbl decline in crude prices and a simultaneous 1% decline in pricing slope can lead to an EBITDA margin improvement of INR2.8/scm for GUJGA. We think actual improvement might be lower as GUJGA might pass on some of the lower raw material cost benefits.
- We also estimate that for every USD1/mmbtu decline in spot LNG prices, the company shall have an ~INR1/scm improvement in margin.
- For deriving natural gas landed cost, we assume a 2.5% import duty, INR70/mmbtu regas charges, GAIL's Zone 2 transportation tariff, and a 15% VAT. We also assume an exchange rate of INR86.2/USD.

Exhibit 1: Margin improvement driven by lower Brent price and pricing slope % for long-term contracts

Particulars	Unit	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Brent price	USD/bbl	75.0	65.0
Pricing slope	%	13.5	12.5
LNG price	USD/mmbtu	10.1	8.1
LNG Price post import duty	USD/mmbtu	10.4	8.3
Regasification charges	USD/mmbtu	0.8	0.8
Transportation tariff	USD/mmbtu	0.9	0.9
N Gas price pre tax	USD/mmbtu	12.1	10.1
VAT @ 15%	USD/mmbtu	1.8	1.5
LNG landed cost	USD/mmbtu	13.9	11.6
LNG landed cost	INR/scm	44.4	36.9
LT contract proportion	%		37.3
EBITDA margin improvement	INR/scm		2.8

Source: Company, MOFSL

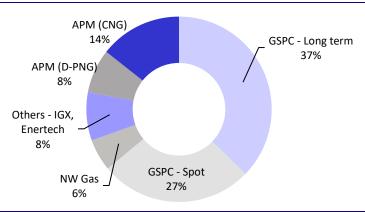


Exhibit 2: Margin improvement fueled by the decline in spot LNG prices

Particulars	Unit	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
LNG price	USD/mmbtu	14.5	13.5
LNG Price post import duty	USD/mmbtu	14.9	13.8
Regasification charges	USD/mmbtu	0.8	0.8
Transportation tariff	USD/mmbtu	0.9	0.9
N Gas price pre tax	USD/mmbtu	16.6	15.6
VAT @ 15%	USD/mmbtu	2.5	2.3
LNG landed cost	USD/mmbtu	19.1	17.9
LNG landed cost	INR/scm	60.9	57.1
LT contract proportion	%		26.7
EBITDA margin improvement	INR/scm		1.0

Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 3: Gas sourcing split (%) for 3QFY25



Source: Company, MOFSL

Shell anticipates a softer spot LNG market in 2HCY25

- In its LNG outlook 2025 released recently, Shell highlighted that while global LNG demand and supply growth would align in 2025, the majority of supply expansion is anticipated in 2HCY25 and could potentially lead to a tighter spot LNG market in 1HCY25. Out of the expected capacity addition of 17-26mmtpa in 2025, Shell expects ~4-10mmtpa capacity to come up in 1HCY25. However, in 2HCY25, as new capacity becomes operational, LNG prices are expected to soften and should support LNG demand.
- In line with the IEA, Shell also expects the long-term demand outlook for LNG to remain robust, notwithstanding the noise around decarbonization and climate change. India and China are expected to be the primary drivers of global LNG demand growth, with Asia's regasification capacity projected to reach ~800mmtpa by 2030 (~620mmtpa in 2024).
- Shell has also cut its forecast for additional LNG supply entering the market between 2024 and 2028 by ~30mmtpa over the past two years, underscoring persistent delays in supply growth and project timelines. We believe shifting project timelines remain a risk going forward for our/Street's base case scenario of softer spot LNG prices in 2HCY25.



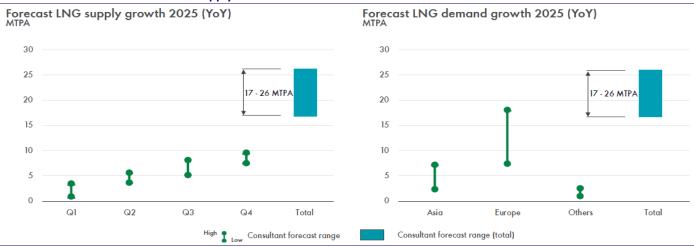
Exhibit 4: Global natural gas supply (2024-40)

Exhibit 5: Global natural gas demand (2024-40)

Particulars	bcm Particulars		bcm
NG supply in 2024	3,850 NG demand in 2024		3,850
Domestic	275 Power		225
Pipeline	40 Industry		155
LNG	410 Buildings		60
NG supply in 2040	4,575	Transport	40
	Source: Shell, MOFSL	Other	245
	NG demand in 2040		4,575

Source: Shell, MOFSL

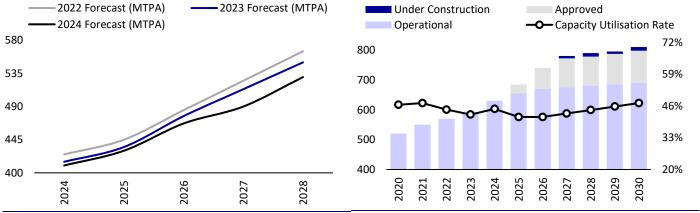
Exhibit 6: Shell's 2025 LNG demand-supply forecast



Source: Shell, MOFSL

Exhibit 7: Shell reduced the 2028 LNG supply forecast by

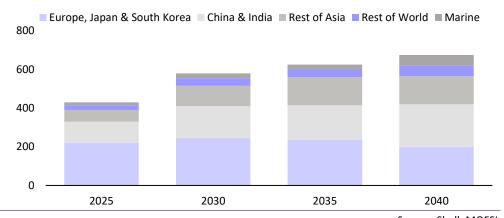
~30mmtpa in two years Exhibit 8: Regasification capacity in Asia



Source: Shell, MOFSL Source: Shell, MOFSL

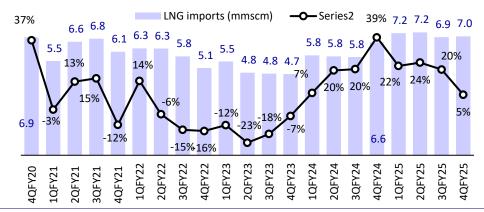


Exhibit 9: Global LNG demand (mmtpa)



Source: Shell, MOFSL

Exhibit 10: India's LNG import trend



Note: 4QFY25 is extrapolated on the basis of Jan'25 data

Source: PPAC, MOFSL

GUJGA's volumes to clock ~6% CAGR during FY24-FY27E

- While GUJGA's volumes grew to 9.3mmscmd from 6.2mmscmd over FY18-24, we estimate volumes to record a ~6% CAGR over FY24-27, touching 11.2mmscmd by FY27. We estimate both CNG/ D-PNG volumes to post ~12% CAGR over FY24-FY27 on a smaller base and I&C-PNG volumes to register a mere ~3% CAGR over FY24-FY27 amid subdued ceramic exports and war-related uncertainties.
- IEA estimates CGD volumes to grow at ~8% during CY23-30: Between 2023 and 2030, IEA expects city gas demand in India to grow by almost 70%, translating into an annual increase of 9bcm and a CAGR of nearly 8%.
- The majority of this growth will be driven by CNG (5.8bcm/year contribution) and small industries (2.8bcm/year contribution), while residential and commercial users are projected to contribute ~0.5bcm/year.
- During 2023-2030, CNG consumption is forecast to increase by over 75%, exceeding 13bcm/year by the end of the decade. This surge is driven by the expansion of the CNG filling station network, the continued cost advantage of CNG at the pump, and growing concerns over urban air pollution, particularly in cities where the transport sector plays a major role.



■ CNG ■ Residential ■ Commercial ■ Small Industry • Total

2024 2025

Exhibit 11: Natural gas demand in the CGD sector in India during 2021-30

Source: IEA, MOFSL

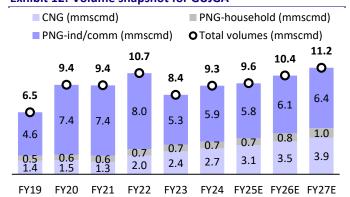
Valuation and view

- The company's long-term volume growth prospects remain robust, with the addition of new industrial units and expansion of existing units. It is aggressively investing in infrastructure to push industrial gas adoption in Thane rural, Ahmedabad rural, and the newly acquired areas in Rajasthan.
- The stock is trading at a P/E of 23x for FY26E and an EV/EBITDA of 12.6x for FY26E. We reiterate our BUY rating on the stock with a TP of INR475/sh, valuing it at 25x FY27E EPS.



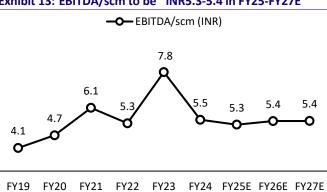
Story in charts

Exhibit 12: Volume snapshot for GUJGA



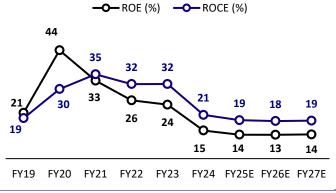
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 13: EBITDA/scm to be ~INR5.3-5.4 in FY25-FY27E



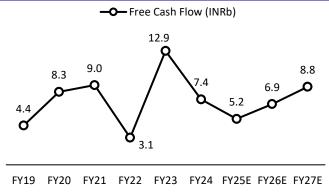
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 14: Return ratios



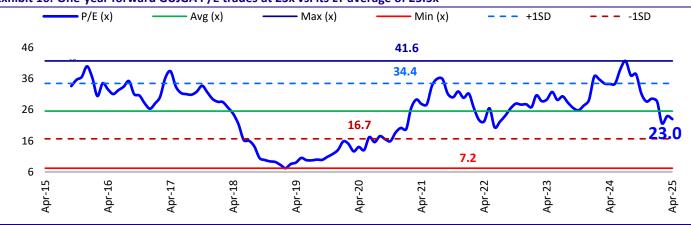
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 15: Free cash flow



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 16: One-year forward GUJGA P/E trades at 23x vs. its LT average of 25.5x



Source: Company, MOFSL



Financials and valuations

Standalone - Income Statement					(INR m)
Y/E March	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Total Income from Operations	1,67,594	1,56,902	1,63,415	1,66,381	1,78,795
Change (%)	1.8	-6.4	4.2	1.8	7.5
EBITDA	23,920	18,764	18,454	20,670	22,320
Margin (%)	14.3	12.0	11.3	12.4	12.5
Depreciation	4,283	4,743	5,094	5,375	5,626
EBIT	19,637	14,021	13,360	15,294	16,694
Int. and Finance Charges	404	293	332	305	312
Other Income	1,013	1,078	1,687	872	1,119
PBT bef. EO Exp.	20,247	14,805	14,715	15,862	17,501
EO Items	0	557	0	0	0
PBT after EO Exp.	20,247	15,362	14,715	15,862	17,501
Current Tax	4,992	3,934	3,818	3,993	4,405
Tax Rate (%)	24.7	25.6	26.0	25.2	25.2
Reported PAT	15,255	11,428	10,896	11,870	13,096
Adjusted PAT	15,255	11,013	10,896	11,870	13,096
Change (%)	17.8	-27.8	-1.1	8.9	10.3
Margin (%)	9.1	7.0	6.7	7.1	7.3
Standalone - Balance Sheet					(INR m)
Y/E March	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Equity Share Capital	1,377	1,377	1,377	1,377	1,377
Total Reserves	68,579	75,516	82,697	90,519	99,150
Net Worth	69,956	76,893	84,074	91,896	1,00,527
Deferred Tax Liabilities	8,461	9,108	9,108	9,108	9,108
Total Loans	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Employed	78,417	86,000	93,181	1,01,004	1,09,635
Gross Block	1,04,085	1,13,079	1,16,915	1,21,984	1,28,039
Less: Accum. Deprn.	30,721	35,464	40,559	45,934	51,559
Net Fixed Assets	73,364	77,615	76,356	76,050	76,480
Capital WIP	9,831	9,180	15,344	20,275	24,220
Total Investments	317	1,364	1,364	1,364	1,364
Curr. Assets, Loans, and Adv.	25,439	28,425	32,071	35,825	42,526
Inventory	612	587	616	619	665
Account Receivables	10,212	10,298	10,726	10,921	11,735
Cash and Bank Balance	6,810	9,261	12,107	15,507	20,692
Cash balance	6,747	9,160	12,006	15,405	20,591
Bank balance	63	101	101	101	101
Loans and Advances	7,806	8,279	8,622	8,779	9,434
Curr. Liability and Prov.	30,534	30,583	31,955	32,511	34,955
Account Payables	7,156	7,002	7,348	7,386	7,932
Other Current Liabilities	22,554	22,787	23,733	24,164	25,967
Provisions	824	794	874	961	1,057
Net Current Assets	-5,095	-2,158	117	3,314	7,571
Appl. of Funds	78,417	86,000	93,181	1,01,003	1,09,634



Financials and valuations

Ratios					
Y/E March (INR)	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Basic (INR)					
EPS	22.2	16.0	15.8	17.2	19.0
Cash EPS	28.4	22.9	23.2	25.1	27.2
BV/Share	101.6	111.7	122.1	133.5	146.0
DPS	6.7	5.7	5.4	5.9	6.5
Payout (%)	30.0	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1
Valuation (x)					
P/E	18.1	25.0	25.3	23.2	21.0
Cash P/E	14.1	17.5	17.2	16.0	14.7
P/BV	3.9	3.6	3.3	3.0	2.7
EV/Sales	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4
EV/EBITDA	11.2	14.2	14.3	12.6	11.4
Dividend Yield (%)	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.6
FCF per share	18.8	10.8	7.6	10.0	12.8
Return Ratios (%)					
RoE	24.2	15.0	13.5	13.5	13.6
RoCE	31.6	20.6	18.7	18.4	18.5
Working Capital Ratios					
Asset Turnover (x)	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6
Inventory (Days)	1	1	1	1	1
Debtor (Days)	22	24	24	24	24
Creditor (Days)	16	16	16	16	16
Working Cap. Turnover (Days)	-26	-27	-27	-27	-27
Leverage Ratio (x)					
Current Ratio	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2
Debt/Equity ratio	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
		-	<u> </u>	-	
Standalone - Cash Flow Statement					(INR m)
Y/E March	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
OP/(Loss) before Tax	20,247	15,362	14,715	15,862	17,501
Depreciation	4,283	4,743	5,094	5,375	5,626
Interest and Finance Charges	404	293	332	305	312
Direct Taxes Paid	-4,608	-3,227	-3,818	-3,993	-4,405
(Inc.)/Dec. in WC	4,052	-201	571	202	929
Others	-597	-630	-1,687	-872	-1,119
CF from Operations	23,780	16,340	15,207	16,879	18,844
(Inc.)/Dec. in FA	-10,867	-8,371	-10,000	-10,000	-10,000
Free Cash Flow	12,912	7,412	5,207	6,879	8,844
Others	454	584	1,687	872	1,119
CF from Investments	-10,413	-8,787	-8,313	-9,128	-8,881
Inc./(Dec.) in Debt	-4,779	0	0	0	0
Interest Paid	-381	-273	-332	-305	-312
Dividend Paid	-1,379	-4,575	-3,715	-4,047	-4,465
CF from Fin. Activity	-6,784	- 5,141	-4,04 7	-4,352	-4,777
Inc./Dec. in Cash	6,583	2,413	2,846	3,400	5,186
Opening Balance	164	6,747	9,159	12,006	15,405
Closing Balance	6,747	9,159	12,006	15,405	20,591
Closing Dalance	0,747	9,133	12,000	13,403	20,331

Investment in securities market are subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing.



NOTES



Explanation of Investment Rating				
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)			
BUY	>=15%			
SELL	<-10%			
NEUTRAL	< - 10 % to 15%			
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change			
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation			

*In case the recommendation given by the Research Analyst is inconsistent with the investment rating legend for a continuous period of 30 days, the Research Analyst shall be within following 30 days take appropriate measures to make the recommendation consistent with the investment rating legend.

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