FINANCIAL SERVICES

Marico

Estimate changes	\longleftrightarrow	_ (
TP change		
Rating change	$ \longleftrightarrow $	P

Bloomberg	MRCO IN
Equity Shares (m)	1290
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	668.4 / 8
52-Week Range (INR)	595 / 463
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	-6/-21/-21
12M Avg Val (INR M)	796

Financials & Valuations (INR b)										
Y/E March	2024E	2025E	2026E							
Sales	96.5	104.9	113.9							
Sales Gr. (%)	-1.2	8.7	8.6							
EBITDA	20.3	22.4	24.7							
EBITDA Margin. %	21.0	21.4	21.7							
Adj. PAT	14.6	16.3	18.1							
Adj. EPS (INR)	11.3	12.7	14.1							
EPS Gr. (%)	12.3	11.8	10.9							
BV/Sh.(INR)	30.4	31.6	33.3							
Ratios										
RoE (%)	37.9	40.9	43.3							
RoCE (%)	34.9	37.6	39.6							
Payout (%)	92.6	90.8	88.9							
Valuations										
P/E (x)	45.5	40.7	36.7							
P/BV (x)	17.0	16.3	15.5							
EV/EBITDA (x)	32.1	28.9	26.2							
Div. Yield (%)	2.0	2.2	2.4							

Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Dec-23	Sep-23	Dec-22					
Promoter	59.4	59.4	59.5					
DII	10.0	9.8	10.3					
FII	25.8	25.8 26.0 25						
Others	4.9	5.0	5.1					
FII Includes depository receipts								

CMP: INR516 TP: INR625 (+21%)

Buy

Performance in line; volume recovery sluggish

- Marico (MRCO) reported an in-line revenue growth with a marginal beat on EBITDA. Domestic revenue was flat owing to the impact of price cuts and an unchanged volume trend. A sequential improvement was noted in urban areas, while the rural recovery was slow. However, the demand environment remained muted during the guarter.
- Domestic revenue is likely to improve in the ensuing quarters owing to a gradual volume recovery and a low price cut impact. We model an 8% revenue CAGR during FY24-26 for the domestic business.
- Gross margin hit a 23-quarter high of 51.3% in 3QFY24, driven by softer input costs. Consequently, management raised its EBITDA margin guidance by ~250bp to 21% for FY24. We model a 21-22% EBITDA margin during FY24-26, as we build a similar GM of 51% while assuming normalization in Ad spending.
- We value the stock based on 45x Dec'25E EPS to arrive at our TP of INR625.
 We reiterate our BUY rating on MRCO. It remains a play on rural recovery.

In-line show; volume to recover gradually

Consolidated

- MRCO's consolidated net sales declined marginally by 1.9% YoY to INR24.2b (est. INR24.2b) in 3QFY24.
- EBITDA/PBT/Adj. PAT grew 12.5%/11.7%/16.8% YoY to INR5.1b/INR5.0b/ INR3.8b (est. INR5.1b/INR4.8b/INR3.6b) during the quarter.
- Domestic volumes grew 2% YoY (est. +3%).
- Consolidated gross margin expanded 630bp YoY/80bp QoQ to 51% (est. 50%) in 3QFY24.
- As a percentage of sales, higher staff costs (up 130bp to 7.8%), A&P expenses (up 125bp to 10.2%) and other expenditure (up 100bp to 12.1%), led EBITDA margin expansion of 270bp YoY to 21.2% in 3QFY24 (est. 20.9%).
- In 9MFY24, net sales declined 2% YoY, while EBITDA/adj. PAT grew 11.8%/ 16.3% YoY.

Highlights from the management commentary

- During the quarter, demand trends remained steady, and there was no apparent improvement from the previous quarter. FMCG volume growth, on a four-year CAGR basis, remained in low single digits.
- The mass home and personal care categories closely followed the subdued rural demand, while packaged foods led due to higher urban salience and penetration-driven growth.
- Rural demand remained subdued, while urban demand maintained its modest growth path.
- GT faced low growth, rising costs, and challenges in profitability and liquidity.
- Despite an increased brand-building investments in both core and new businesses, the gross margin is likely to expand by 450-500bp in FY24.
- Management expects an EBITDA margin expansion of ~250bp YoY in FY24.

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Investors are advised to refer through important disclosures made at the last page of the Research Report.

Motilal Oswal research is available on www.motilaloswal.com/Institutional-Equities, Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, Factset and S&P Capital.

- We keep our FY24/FY25 EPS estimates unchanged.
- MRCO's core portfolio has seen pressure from weak demand and price cuts. The company has initiated several steps to recover the volume, but the overall demand environment is not conducive. We believe once rural demand picks up, the traditional categories will bounce back to their normalized growth rate.
- The company has been consistent in delivering double-digit EBITDA growth and a better scorecard for MRCO. We model a 10% EPS CAGR during FY24-26E.
- The stock has been under pressure due to a consistent delay in demand recovery. We value the stock based on 45x Dec'25E EPS to arrive at our TP of INR625. We reiterate our BUY rating on the stock.

V/C March	FY23 FY24E					EV22	EV245	EV24	Mar			
Y/E March			-						FY23	FY24E	FY24	Var.
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4QE			3QE	(%)
Domestic volume growth (%)	-5.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.5	3.0	
Net Sales	25,580	24,960	24,700	22,400	24,770	24,760	24,220	22,749	97,640	96,499	24,206	0.1%
YoY Change (%)	1.3	3.2	2.6	3.7	-3.2	-0.8	-1.9	1.6	2.4	-1.2	-2.0	
COGS	14,060	14,070	13,600	11,780	12,390	12,260	11,800	11,027	53,510	47,477	12,151	
Gross Profit	11,520	10,890	11,100	10,620	12,380	12,500	12,420	11,721	44,130	49 ,02 1	12,055	3.0%
Gross margin (%)	45.0	43.6	44.9	47.4	50.0	50.5	51.3	51.5	45.2	50.8	49.8	
Other Expenditure	6,240	6 <i>,</i> 560	6,540	6,690	6,640	7,530	7,290	7,286	26,030	28,746	6 <i>,</i> 996	
% to Sales	24.4	26.3	26.5	29.9	26.8	30.4	30.1	32.0	26.7	29.8	28.9	
EBITDA	5,280	4,330	4,560	3,930	5,740	4,970	5,130	4,436	18,100	20,276	5,059	1.4%
Margins (%)	20.6	17.3	18.5	17.5	23.2	20.1	21.2	19.5	18.5	21.0	20.9	
YoY Change (%)	9.8	2.4	5.8	13.6	8.7	14.8	12.5	12.9	7.7	12.0	10.9	
Depreciation	360	370	390	430	360	390	420	422	1,550	1,592	406	
Interest	100	150	140	170	170	200	190	190	560	750	175	
Other Income	170	190	400	680	460	380	430	464	1,440	1,734	340	
РВТ	4,990	4,000	4,430	4,010	5,670	4,760	4,950	4,287	17,430	19,667	4,818	2.7%
Тах	1,220	930	1,100	960	1,310	1,160	1,090	1,462	4,210	4,750	1,166	
Rate (%)	24.4	23.3	24.8	23.9	23.1	24.4	22.0	34.1	24.2	24.2	24.2	
Minority Interest	60	60	50	30	90	70	30	-481	-200	-291	50	
Adjusted PAT	3,710	3,010	3,280	3,020	4,270	3,530	3,830	3,307	13,420	15,208	3,602	6.3%
YoY Change (%)	4.2	-2.6	5.8	20.3	15.1	17.3	16.8	9.5	4.7	13.3	9.8	

E: MOFSL Estimates

Key Performance Indicators

FY24		
Q 2Q	3Q	
.0 3.0	3.0	
.9 1.2	0.3	
.2 8.6	9.2	
.7 7.3	11.3	
.0 49.5	48.7	
.8 30.4	30.1	
.5 1.6	1.7	
.9 -12.9	-13.2	
.4 14.8	11.5	
.6 100.0	7.5	
.3 15.7	12.9	
L. 5.	1.9 -12.9 5.4 14.8 0.6 100.0	

E: MOFSL Estimates

Exhibit 1: Domestic volume growth

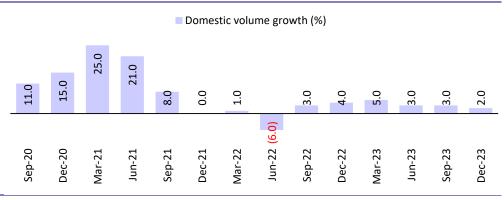


Exhibit 2: Consolidated segmental details

	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24	2QFY24	3QFY24
Sales growth (%)							
Domestic	-3.6	1.4	1.9	1.8	-4.9	-3.4	-3.1
International	19.5	9.3	4.9	9.9	2.0	7.3	1.6
Total	1.3	3.2	2.6	3.7	-3.2	-0.8	-1.9
EBIT margin (%)							
Domestic EBIT margin	20.72%	17.35%	18.58%	17.94%	23.43%	20.52%	21.19%
International EBIT margin	24.49%	21.17%	21.65%	21.18%	27.85%	23.29%	24.80%
Total	21.66%	18.27%	19.35%	18.75%	24.59%	21.24%	22.13%

Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 3: Market share of key categories in the India business

Franchise	~MS%	Rank
Occonut Oil Franchise	62%	1 st
O Parachute Rigids within Coconut Oil	53%	1 st
le Saffola Oats	41%	1 st
Value Added Hair Oils	27%	1 st
O Post wash Leave-on Serums	53%	1 st
Hair Gels/Waxes/Creams	52%	1 st

^ Volume market share, *Value market share

Source: Company

Exhibit 4: Seizing Growth & Sustainability by MRCO in 3QFY24

potential created till

date



Marico's ESG framework comprises of 8 focus areas – Energy & Emissions, Water stewardship, Circular economy, Responsible sourcing, Brands with purpose, Inclusion and diversity, Sustainable agriculture and Corporate governance. To read the latest updates, please visit Marico's ESG microsite

recyclables and MLP



program



Highlights from the management commentary

Business environment and outlook

 During the quarter, demand trends remained steady, and there was no apparent improvement from the previous quarter. FMCG volume growth, on a four-year CAGR basis, remained in low single digits.

more than a year

under the program

- The mass home and personal care categories closely followed the subdued rural demand, while packaged foods led due to higher urban salience and penetration-driven growth.
- Rural demand remained subdued, while urban demand maintained its modest growth path.
- The current consumption growth pattern, resembling a K-shape, has widened the gap between general trade and organized retail.
- GT faced low growth, rising costs, and challenges in profitability and liquidity.
- The India business reported a 2% volume growth, decreasing sequentially due to stock reductions in key portfolios to support GT channel partners.
- There was a 5% volume growth on a four-year basis, and sequential growth improved for the core portfolio.
- Over 3/4th of the business is either gaining or maintaining market share and penetration levels.
- The performance of the new food business has consistently excelled and is expected to reach a minimum of INR 7.5b by year-end.
- True Elements and Plix have been experiencing significant growth in their respective categories.
- Beardo is expected to generate EBITDA this year, while Just Herbs and True Elements are anticipated to approach breakeven in the coming year.
- Management is optimistic about a gradual improvement in consumption trends over the next 4-5 quarters.

- In the overall digital business, there are growth drivers and significant GT potential and MRCO initiated this journey with Beardo in a small way.
- The company is consistently implementing a 2% to 3% price increase across the portfolio. It has had a minimal impact on volume. Considering these factors, management is confident of achieving a double-digit revenue growth in FY25.

Material costs, margin and guidance

- Despite an increased brand-building investments in both core and new businesses, the gross margin is likely to expand by 450-500bp in FY24.
- Management expects an EBITDA margin expansion of ~250bp YoY in FY24.
 Segmental performance

Parachute coconut oil

- Volume was up 3%.
- Gained ~40bp in market share on a MAT basis.
- Management anticipates a gradual improvement in volume growth, driven by an upward bias in input costs and stable consumer pricing.

Saffola edible oil

- Edible oil posted a mid-single-digit volume decline on a high base and extended sluggishness in trade sentiment, resulting in lower inventory levels YoY.
- There was a mid-twenties YoY decline in revenue, attributed to pricing corrections over the last 12 months that had not yet impacted the base.
- The foods business delivered a steady performance with 18% YoY value growth.
- Saffola Oats maintained its category leadership, while Honey and Soya Chunks have been scaling up on expected lines.
- Saffola aims to sustain growth and retain its position as the leading brand in the Oats category. Additionally, honey and soya chunks are expected to reach INR1b each in the coming year.

VAHO

- VAHO value growth was 3%, indicating a slower recovery in rural demand.
- Value growth on a four-year CAGR basis was at 6%.
- The VAHO portfolio showed mixed trends, with bottom-of-the-pyramid segments being subdued and mid-to-premium segments growing in the mid-tohigh-single digits.

Premium-personal care

- The premium Personal Care sustained its strong double-digit growth trajectory during the quarter.
- The Digital-first portfolio reported an annual recurring revenue of ~INR4b+ in 3QFY24.
- Foods and Premium Personal Care's strong growth positions us to achieve 20% of domestic revenues from these portfolios this year.
- Digital businesses amounted to 4.5b- 5b, and the company anticipates a doubledigit EBITDA from them in the next two to three years.
- For foods and digital, the gross margin has been higher than that of the core portfolio this year.
- Plix makes a far higher margin than normal food because wellness brands get to make higher margins.

International business

- Bangladesh saw a 6% decline in CC growth due to transient macroeconomic challenges.
- Shampoo and baby care portfolios experienced healthy growth.
- Anticipate improved business performance in Bangladesh in the upcoming quarter.
- South-East Asia achieved 4% CC growth, hit by slower HPC demand in Vietnam.
- MENA sustained strong growth, delivering a 26% CC growth, with double-digit growth in the Gulf region and Egypt.
- South Africa recorded a 33% CC growth, primarily driven by the ethnic hair care segment.
- NCD and Exports exhibited a robust 16% growth.
- In the Middle East, North Africa, and other markets with potential for improved operating margin expansion, the goal is to sustain double-digit bottom-line growth in the coming year.

Valuation and view

What has happened in the last 10 years?

- In key categories such as Coconut Oil and VAHO, MRCO reported healthy sales growth, with volume growth for Parachute actually improving in recent years.
- In Saffola Foods (Oats), the company was able to strengthen its market share. It grew significantly in the Masala Oats category.
- Growth in Saffola (Edible Oil brand) has tapered off in recent years because of:
 a) strategic mistakes in terms of pricing, and b) inability to cater to the recently emerged Super Premium market segment.
- Similarly, the growth potential of brands Livon, Set Wet, and Zatak acquired from Paras/Reckitt has not been realized as they have not scaled up as expected.
- Growth in revenue and earnings has been healthy for the past 10 years, with a CAGR of ~8%/11%/13% in revenue/EBITDA/PAT. Over the past five years, growth has been robust, but has decelerated compared to previous years (sales/EBITDA/ PAT growth of ~9%/10%/~10%).

Our view on the stock

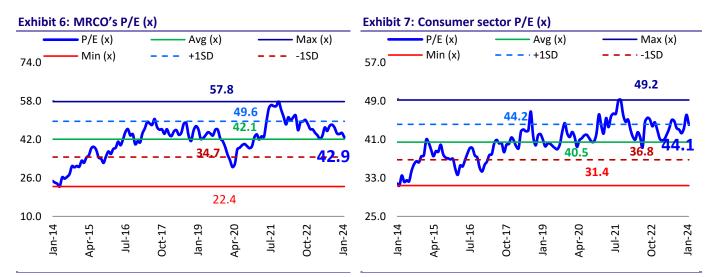
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Marico

	Old		N	ew	Change (%)		
	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E	
Sales	97,554	1,07,715	96,499	1,04,931	-1.1%	-2.6%	
EBITDA	20,290	22,466	20,276	22,432	-0.1%	-0.2%	
PAT	14,646	16,194	14,626	16,347	-0.1%	0.9%	

Exhibit 5: No material changes to our model

Source: Company, MOFSL



Source: Company, MOFSL

Source: Company, MOFSL

Financials and valuations

Income Statement								(INR m)
Y/E March	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Net Sales	73,336	73,150	80,480	95,378	97,640	96,499	1,04,931	1,13,935
Change (%)	16.0	-0.3	10.0	18.5	2.4	-1.2	8.7	8.6
COGS	40,170	37,450	42,740	54,360	53,510	47,477	51,416	55,828
Gross Profit	33,166	35,700	37,740	41,018	44,130	49,021	53,515	58,107
Margin (%)	45.2	48.8	46.9	43.0	45.2	50.8	51.0	51.0
Operating Expenses	19,910	21,010	21,860	24,208	26,030	28,746	31,083	33,425
EBITDA	13,256	14,690	15,880	16,810	18,100	20,276	22,432	24,682
Change (%)	16.5	10.8	8.1	5.9	7.7	12.0	10.6	10.0
Margin (%)	18.1	20.1	19.7	17.6	18.5	21.0	21.4	21.7
Depreciation	1,310	1,400	1,390	1,390	1,550	1,592	1,776	1,942
Int. and Fin. Charges	400	500	340	390	560	750	550	450
Other Income - Recurring	1,030	1,240	1,131	958	1,440	1,734	1,828	1,998
Profit before Taxes	12,576	14,030	15,281	15,988	17,430	19,667	21,935	24,288
Change (%)	12.6	11.6	8.9	4.6	9.0	12.8	11.5	10.7
Margin (%)	17.1	19.2	19.0	16.8	17.9	20.4	20.9	21.3
Current Tax (excl MAT Ent)	1,430	3,470	3,240	3,460	4,210	4,750	5,298	5,867
Deferred Tax	-170	-160	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tax Rate (%)	10.0	23.6	21.2	21.6	24.2	24.2	24.2	24.2
Minority Interest	-160	-220	-310	-290	-200	-291	-290	-293
Profit after Taxes	11,156	10,500	11,731	12,238	13,020	14,626	16,347	18,129
Change (%)	37.0	-5.9	11.7	4.3	6.4	12.3	11.8	10.9
Margin (%)	15.2	14.4	14.6	12.8	13.3	15.2	15.6	15.9
Reported PAT	11,156	10,210	11,851	12,238	13,020	14,626	16,347	18,129

Balance Sheet

balance Sneet								
Y/E March	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Share Capital	1,290	1,290	1,290	1,290	1,290	1,290	1,290	1,290
Reserves	28,460	28,940	31,110	31,890	36,700	37,892	39,532	41,683
Net Worth	29,750	30,230	32,400	33,180	37,990	39,182	40,822	42,973
Minority Interest	120	130	180	570	1,570	1,861	2,151	2,444
Loans	3,490	3,350	3,480	3,450	4,750	3,450	3,250	3,050
Capital Employed	33,360	33,710	36,060	37,200	44,310	44,493	46,223	48,467
Gross Fixed Assets	11,180	12,650	15,450	17,910	22,240	24,740	27,240	29,240
Less: Accum. Depn.	-3,210	-4,070	-5,460	-6,850	-8,400	-9,992	-11,767	-13,709
Net Fixed Assets	7,970	8,580	9,990	11,060	13,840	14,748	15,473	15,531
Capital WIP	450	580	240	390	670	670	670	670
Goodwill	5,030	5,380	6,130	6,540	8,620	8,620	8,620	8,620
Investments	4,500	7,330	8,540	8,280	10,960	10,960	10,960	10,960
Current	3,910	6,280	6,280	6,410	5,780	5,780	5,780	5,780
Non-current	590	1,050	2,260	1,870	5,180	5,180	5,180	5,180
Curr. Assets, L&A	29,120	26,560	28,340	29,420	33,910	30,483	33,436	37,733
Inventory	14,110	13,800	11,280	14,150	12,250	12,741	13,863	15,066
Account Receivables	5,170	5,390	3,880	6,520	10,150	6,079	6,611	7,178
Cash and Bank Balance	5,520	2,790	9,250	5,250	7,560	7,741	8,826	11,122
Others	4,320	4,580	3,930	3,500	3,950	3,921	4,137	4,367
Curr. Liab. and Prov.	15,600	16,250	18,200	19,270	23,370	20,668	22,616	24,727
Current Liabilities	3,880	4,240	5,190	4,430	7,260	7,986	8,785	9,663
Accounts Payable	9,440	9,780	11,340	13,440	14,520	10,831	11,677	12,554
Provisions	2,280	2,230	1,670	1,400	1,590	1,851	2,154	2,509
Net Current Assets	13,520	10,310	10,140	10,150	10,540	9,815	10,820	13,006
Deferred Tax Liability	1,890	1,530	1,020	780	-320	-320	-320	-320
Application of Funds	33,360	33,710	36,060	37,200	44,310	44,493	46,223	48,467
E. MOESI Ectimator								

E: MOFSL Estimates

Financials and valuations

Ratios Y/E March	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Basic (INR)	2015	2020	2021	2022	2023	20241	ZUZJL	20201
EPS	8.6	8.1	9.1	9.5	10.1	11.3	12.7	14.1
Cash EPS	8.2	9.1	10.1	10.6	11.3	12.7	14.1	15.7
BV/Share	23.1	23.4	25.1	25.7	29.4	30.4	31.6	33.3
DPS	5.0	6.8	7.5	9.3	9.5	10.5	11.5	12.5
Payout %	57.8	85.3	81.6	97.5	94.1	92.6	90.8	88.9
Valuation (x)	57.0	05.5	01.0	57.5	54.1	52.0	50.0	00.5
P/E	59.7	63.4	56.7	54.4	51.1	45.5	40.7	36.7
Cash P/E	62.8	56.6	51.2	48.8	45.7	40.8	36.5	32.9
EV/Sales	9.0	9.0	8.1	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.2	5.7
EV/EBITDA	49.7	44.9	41.0	39.0	36.0	32.1	28.9	26.2
P/BV	22.4	22.0	20.5	20.1	17.5	17.0	16.3	15.5
Dividend Yield (%)	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.8	17.5	2.0	2.2	2.4
Return Ratios (%)	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.2	2.4
RoE	40.4	35.0	37.5	37.3	36.6	37.9	40.9	43.3
RoCE	37.7	33.1	35.3	37.3		37.9	37.6	39.6
RoiC	49.0	44.2	55.6	58.5	33.5 51.9	56.4	61.6	
Working Capital Ratios	49.0	44.2	55.0	56.5	51.9	50.4	01.0	67.0
	26	27	18	25	20	23	22	22
Debtor (Days)	26	27		25	38		23	23
Asset Turnover (x)	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.4
Leverage Ratio Debt/Equity (x)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Cash Flow Statement								
Y/E March	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
OP/(loss) before Tax	12,570	13,740	15,401	15,988	17,430	19,667	21,935	24,288
Others	-460	-100	-231	22	-580	111	128	147
Depreciation	1,310	1,500	1,390	1,390	1,550	1,592	1,776	1,942
Interest Paid	-140	-220	340	390	70	750	550	450
Direct Taxes Paid	-3,200	-2,900	-3,240	-3,460	-3,690	-4,750	-5,298	-5,867
(Incr)/Decr in WC	210	330	7,230	-3,870	-590	733	-115	-114
CF from Operations	10,290	12,350	20,890	10,460	14,190	18,103	18,975	20,847
(Incr)/Decr in FA	-1,430	-1,860	-3,210	-3,020	-1,570	-2,500	-2,500	-2,000
Free Cash Flow	8,860	10,490	17,680	7,440	12,620	15,603	16,475	18,847
(Pur)/Sale of Investments	1,030	-1,890	0	-130	-8,200	0	0	0
Others	-2,940	3,310	90	380	480	0	-3	-4
CF from Invest.	-3,340	-440	-3,120	-2,770	-9,290	-2,500	-2,503	-2,004
Issue of Shares	0	0	225	453	90	0	0	0
(Incr)/Decr in Debt	-50	-690	130	-30	1,280	-1,300	-200	-200
Dividend Paid	-6,820	-10,250	-9,675	-11,933	-6,070	-13,545	-14,835	-16,125
Others	-110	-520	-520	-670	-900	-578	-352	-222
CF from Fin. Activity	-6,980	-11,460	-9,840	-12,180	-5,600	-15,423	-15,387	-16,547
Incr/Decr of Cash	-30	450	7,930	-4,490	-700	181	1,085	2,296
Add: Opening Balance	1,414	1,384	1,834	9,764	5,274	4,574	4,755	5,840
Closing Balance	1,384	1,834	9,764	5,274	4,574	4,755	5,840	8,136
E: MOESI Estimates	-		-					

E: MOFSL Estimates

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NOTES

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Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)	
BUY	>=15%	
SELL	< - 10%	
NEUTRAL	< - 10 % to 15%	
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change	
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