RESULT REPORT Q3 FY25 | Sector: Cement

UltraTech Cement

Weak demand and pricing, increase in debt structure, and near-term underperformance of acquired company leads SELL rating

Result Synopsis

In 3QFY25, UTECM's numbers are better than our estimates driven by better-than-expected realization and improved cost efficiency level. Our assumption on revenue, volumes and opex per tonne were in-line with reported number, while we missed EBITDA and Adj. PAT in absolute number mainly due to better-than-expected realization (+0.8% QoQ). As an industry leader the volumes could have much better (11.1% YoY and 9.1% QoQ). However, the numbers are relatively good amidst sluggish demand and weak pricing environment supported by strong cost reduction. EBITDA/tn has improved to Rs951 and increase of 31.1% QoQ, but down by 20.2% YoY due to high base impact. We believe, further improvement in EBITDA/tn in the range of Rs1000-1130 in 4Q FY25 supported mainly by cost reduction. However, the full year EBITDA/tn would remain lower in the range of Rs950-980.

We expect volume addition from its recently acquired India Cement (ICL) from 4Q FY25 and Kesoram Industry (KIL) from FY26E onwards. At present ICL/ KCL capacity utilization stands at 57%/ 70% respectively and the same has been factored in our numbers respectively. It would take few more quarter ICL to reach UTCEM's efficiency level whereas not much head room left for KIL with respect to capacity utilization due to higher competition in southern region. However, the ongoing cost saving capex program in ICL/ KIL would add profitability in next 12-15 months' time frame. At current scenario we are quite cautious on demand and realization front, until unless we observe any strong demand uptick or stable to marginal increase in cement prices, our view on the stock remains negative with SELL rating. We are factoring ICL and KCL's volume from 4Q FY25/ FY26E onwards respectively to arrive Revenue/ EBITDA/ Adj. PAT CAGR of 10.9%/ 13.5%/ 13.1% over FY24-FY27E. Our valuation is purely based on 1). volume addition from new units as well acquired units, 2). Improvement in capacity utilization, 3). Flattish to marginal increase in realization, 4). Cost efficiency level, and 5) High debt level. At present the stock is trading at 22x Sep'26 EV/EBITDA (25% premium to its historical avg. EV/EBITDA multiple, and 50-60% premium to peer avg. EV/EBITDA) looks over valued, we believe, sluggish demand, weak pricing, underperformance of ICL and increased debt structure are the key reason to squeeze profitability to some extent in near-term. Therefore, we value the stock at 16x Sep'26 EV/EBITDA with revised target price of Rs9039 (Earlier Rs8272) and maintain SELL rating.

Result Highlights

- Revenue Rs172bn (+2.7% YoY/ +10% QoQ), is ~1.6% above our est. of Rs169bn. EBITDA Rs29bn (-11.3% YoY/ +43% QoQ), is ~11.3% above our est. of Rs26bn. Adj. PAT Rs15bn (-17.3% YoY/ +79% QoQ), is ~28% below our est. of Rs12bn.
- Volumes 30.4mt (+11.2% YoY/ +9.1% QoQ), is in-line with our estimate. While Realization Rs5661/tn (-7.6% YoY/ +0.8% QoQ), is ~1.4% above our est. Rs5584.
- EBITDA/tn Rs951 (-20.2% YoY/ +31.1% QoQ), is ~11.1% above our est. of Rs855 Mainly due to better-than-expected realization.

Exhibit 1: Actual vs estimates

Rs Mn Actual		Est	imate	% Va	Remarks	
V2 IAIII	Actual	YSec	Consensus	YSec	Consensus	Remarks
Sales	171,933	169,254	171,837	1.6	0.1	Better than expected
EBITDA	28,871	25,930	27,513	11.3	4.9	realization led to miss
Margin (%)	16.8	15.3	16.0	147 bps	78 bps	bottom line numbers
Rept. PAT	14,695	11,507	12,879	27.7	14.1	

Source: Company, YES Sec



Reco	:	SELL
СМР	:	Rs 11,296
Target Price	:	Rs 9,039
Potential Return	:	-20%

Stock data (as on Jan 24, 2025)

Nifty	23,080
52 Week h/I (Rs)	12145 / 9250
Market cap (Rs/USD mn)	3081455 / 35753
Outstanding Shares (mn)	288
6m Avg t/o (Rs mn):	3,866
Div yield (%):	0.7
Bloomberg code:	UTCEM IN
NSE code:	ULTRACEMCO

Stock performance



Shareholding pattern (As of Sep'24 end)

Promoter	60.0%
FII+DII	32.7%
Others	7.1%

Δ in stance

(1-Yr)	New	Old
Rating	SELL	SELL
Target Price	9,039	8,272

Δ in earnings estimates

	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
EPS (New)	200.5	259.6	354.2
EPS (Old)	176.7	229.6	317.4
% Change	13.3	13.1	11.6

Financial Summary

(Rs mn)	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	713,823	852,531	965,860
Growth	1%	19%	13%
EBITDA	119,788	150,613	189,608
Margin	17%	18%	20%
Adj PAT	57,874	74,936	102,245
Growth	-18%	29%	36%
EPS	200.5	259.6	354.2
ND/EBITDA	0.8	0.5	0.1
ROE	9	11	14
ROCE	9	10	13
EV/EBITDA	28.0	22.1	17.3

GIRIJA SHANKAR RAY Lead Analyst

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Exhibit 2: Quarterly snapshot (Console)

Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	3QFY25	3QFY24	YoY %	2QFY25	QoQ%	Our Est.	Var. (%)	9MFY25	9MFY24	YoY%
Net Revenue	171,933	167,400	2.7	156,347	10.0	169,254	1.6	508,976	504,892	0.8
Total Expenses	143,062	134,854	6.1	136,165	5.1			429,530	416,346	3.2
COGS	32,962	26,554	24.1	29,165	13.0			94,366	80,936	16.6
Employee Expenses	8,500	7,689	10.5	9,139	(7.0)			25,021	22,882	9.3
Power & fuel	39,802	41,780	(4.7)	38,377	3.7			123,116	134,445	(8.4)
Freight Exp	38,112	36,209	5.3	35,835	6.4			115,760	112,335	3.0
Other Expenses	23,687	22,622	4.7	23,649	0.2			71,267	65,749	8.4
EBITDA	28,871	32,546	(11.3)	20,183	43.0	25,930	11.3	79,446	88,546	(10.3)
EBITDA (%)	16.8	19.4	-265 bps	12.9	388 bps			15.6	17.5	-193 bps
D&A	9,167	7,835	17.0	9,039	1.4			26,631	23,304	14.3
Other income	2,443	1,405	73.9	2,207	10.7			6,308	4,813	31.0
Interest Expense	3,819	2,622	45.7	3,171	20.4			9,546	7,069	35.0
Exceptional/EO items	-	-	NA	-	NA			(325)	-	NA
Share JV/Associates	(13)	58	(121.7)	(14)	(13.2)			2	130	(98.5)
EBT	18,315	23,552	(22.2)	10,166	80.2			49,904	63,117	(20.9)
Tax	3,580	5,804	(38.3)	1,914	87.0			9,965	15,663	(36.4)
Minority Interest	40	(22)	(282.3)	51	(22.0)			78	(15)	(618.7)
Reported PAT	14,695	17,770	(17.3)	8,200	79.2			39,861	47,469	(16.0)
Adjusted PAT	14,695	17,770	(17.3)	8,200	79.2	11,507	27.7	40,105	47,469	(15.5)
Adjusted PAT (%)	8.5	10.6	-207 bps	5.2	330 bps			7.9	9.4	-152 bps
Adj. EPS	51.0	61.5	(17.1)	28.5	79.2			139.2	164.7	(15.5)

Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 3: Quarterly Operational Performance Analysis (Console)

Particulars (Rs m)	3QFY25	3QFY24	YoY %	2QFY25	Q ₀ Q%	Our Est.	Var. (%)	9MFY25	9MFY24	YoY%
Total Volumes (MMT)	30.4	27.3	11.2	27.8	9.1	30.3	0.2	90.2	84.1	7.3
NSR/te (Blended)	5,661	6,127	(7.6)	5,616	0.8	5,583	1.4	5,645	6,006	(6.0)
RM/te	1,085	972	11.7	1,048	3.6			1,047	963	8.7
Employees/te	280	281	(0.6)	328	(14.7)			278	272	1.9
Power/te	1,311	1,529	(14.3)	1,378	(4.9)			1,366	1,599	(14.6)
Freight/te	1,255	1,325	(5.3)	1,287	(2.5)			1,284	1,336	(3.9)
Others/te	780	828	(5.8)	849	(8.2)			790	782	1.1
Opex/te (Blended)	4,711	4,936	(4.6)	4,891	(3.7)	4,728	(0.4)	4,764	4,953	(3.8)
EBITDA/te (Blended)	951	1,191	(20.2)	725	31.1	855	11.1	881	1,053	(16.3)



KEY CON-CALL HIGHLIGHTS & ANALYSIS

- **Demand and Volume**: The South region, particularly Andhra Pradesh, is expected to drive demand recovery, improving volumes and pricing across the region. UTCEM's capacity in the South has grown significantly to 60 MT, achieving a 30% market share. Utilization in the East remains below 70%, while other regions are operating at around 75%.
- Price: Cement prices in the South have faced challenges in sustaining increases, with historical price disparity between Tamil Nadu/Kerala and Andhra Pradesh/Karnataka narrowing due to competition and demand shifts. Improving demand in Andhra Pradesh is expected to stabilize and boost regional prices.
- CapEx and Expansion: UTCEM has allocated RS. 8,000-9,000 cr for FY25 CapEx, funded entirely through internal accruals, with FY27 CapEx expected to drop to Rs. 6,000 cr. Recent clinker additions include 6.7 MT, with another 3.35 MT expected this quarter and 10 MT planned for FY26. The company is also testing inland waterways for eco-friendly and cost-effective logistics.
- Cost Efficiency: Efficiency improvements have reduced lead distances by 23 kms, saving Rs. 70/ton. Expanding WHRS has cut incremental power costs by 90%. The company aims to achieve a total cost reduction of Rs. 300 per ton by FY27, with measurable results expected by FY25.
- India Cements: Debt reduction at India Cements was achieved through asset monetization. UTCEM has not provided any loans or advances. India Cements' brands, such as CSK Cement, will be integrated into UTCEM, but there will be no association with IPL or cricket-related branding.
- **Kesoram**: The integration of Kesoram into UTCEM is on track for completion by Mar'25. Regulatory approvals for mines in Telangana and Karnataka are in advanced stages, with Rs. 500 cr allocated for CapEx improvements.
- Debt Levels: UTCEM's CapEx will be funded through internal accruals, ensuring debt levels remain stable. While debt reduction is expected to begin in FY26, FY25 levels will remain flat due to high CapEx. Debt at India Cements has been reduced through asset monetization, with no loans or advances provided by UTCEM. As on date, the consolidated net debt stands at Rs16160Cr (incl. Cost of open offer Rs3142Cr/ ICL's net debt is Rs12141Cr/ and India cement outstanding debt as of Dec'24 is Rs877Cr).
- Future: The company's UBS platform has strong growth potential, particularly in Tier 2 and Tier 3 towns, offering convenient solutions for individual homebuilders. Debt reduction is expected to start in FY26, with no significant increase in FY25 despite high CapEx. Andhra Pradesh's demand recovery will play a key role in future growth.



QUATERLY CHARTS & ANALYSIS

Exhibit 4: Volume recovery in 3Q despite sluggish demand

Exhibit 5: Better realization led by strong brand equity and distributor networking in the industry



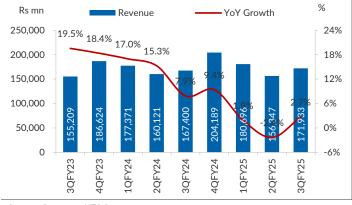


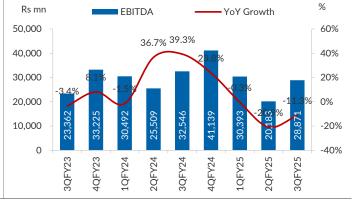
Source: Company, YES Sec

Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 6: Revenue increased led by better volume supported by marginal increase in realization

Exhibit 7: EBITDA down by 11.3% YoY due high base impact but increased by 43% QoQ.



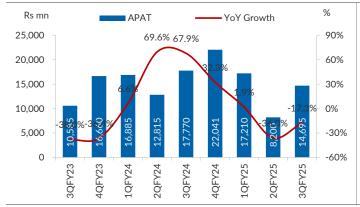


Source: Company, YES Sec

Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 8: Adj. PAT down by 17.3% YoY due to high base impact, however recovered by 79.2% on QoQ basis

Exhibit 9: EBITDA/tn have improved to Rs951 (+31.1% QoQ) led by better top-line growth with cost reduction



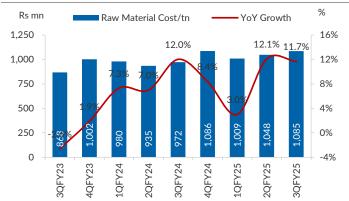


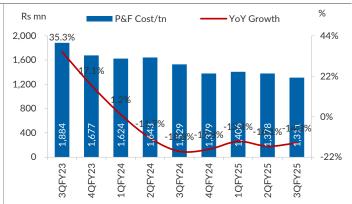
Source: Company, YES Sec



Exhibit 10: RM cost/tn up by 11.7% YoY (+3.6% QoQ)

Exhibit 11: P&F cost/tn down by 14.3% YoY (-4.9% QoQ) despite Rs48cr onetime charge levied by AP Govt.





Source: Company, YES Sec

Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 12: Drop in logistic cost/tn due to reduction in lead distances by 23kms

Exhibit 13: Employee cost/tn down by 0.6% YoY (-14.7% QoQ) in the absence of half yearly bonus and incentives to the employees in 2Q FY25

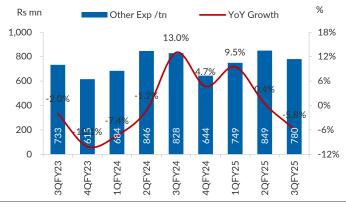




Source: Company, YES Sec

Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 14: Other exp/tn down by 5.8% YoY (-8.2% QoQ) Exhibit 15: Opex/tn down by 4.6% YoY (-3.7% QoQ)

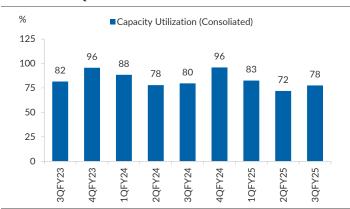


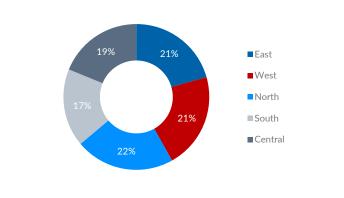


Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 16: Capacity utilization (Incl. overseas) improved to 78% in 3QFY25







Source: Company, YES Sec Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 18: Domestic growth plans on track

	Particulars	Unit	Project	Cement Capacity (Mtpa)	Timelines
	Capacity as at Mar-24			140.8	
	Karur, Tamil Nadu	GU	G	2.7	Commissioned
4	Kukurdih, Chhattisgarh	IU	G	2.7	Commissioned
Till Dec'24	Jharsuguda, Odisha	GU	В	0.4	Commissioned
l	APCW, Andhra Pradesh	IU	В	1.8	Commissioned
F	Arakkonam, Tamil Nadu	GU	В	1.2	Commissioned
	Kukurdih, Chattisgarh	GU	В	0.6	Commissioned
	Karur, Tamil Nadu	GU	В	0.6	Q4 FY25
	Sonar Bangla, West Bengal	GU	В	0.6	Q4 FY25
	Durgapur, West Bengal	GU	В	0.6	Q4 FY25
	Maihar, Madhya Pradesh	IU	В	4.5	Q4 FY25
	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	BT	G	1.8	Q4 FY25
	Panvel, Maharashtra	ВТ	В	1.0	Q4 FY25
	Capacity addition in FY25 (Excl. BT)			15.7	

Particulars	Unit	Project	Cement Capacity (Mtpa)
To be commissi	oned in F	Y26	
Patratu, Jharkhand	GU	В	2.5
Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh	GU	G	1.8
Nathdwara, Rajasthan	IU	В	1.2
Dhule, Maharashtra	GU	В	1.8
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	GU	G	3.3
Parli, Maharashtra	GU	В	1.2
To be commiss	ioned in I	FY27	
Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh	GU	В	2.7
Bihar	GU	G	3.3
West Bengal	GU	G	3.3
APCW, Andhra Pradesh	IU	В	2.7
Andhra Pradesh	IU	G	2.7
Gujarat	BT	G	1.2
Karnataka	BT	G	1.2
Assam	BT	G	1.2
Tamil Nadu	BT	G	1.8
Capacity addition in FY26 and FY2	7		26.5

Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 19: Long-term growth plan details





Exhibit 20: Change in estimates

Rs mn	New Estimates			Old Estimates			Change (%)		
RS IIIII	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	713,823	852,531	965,860	714,871	812,375	920,776	(0.15)	4.94	4.90
EBITDA	119,788	150,613	189,608	112,812	139,727	175,842	6.2	7.8	7.8
EBITDA Margin (%)	16.8	17.7	19.6	15.8	17.2	19.1	100bps	47bps	53bps
APAT	57,874	74,936	102,245	51,022	66,296	91,628	13.4	13.0	11.6
Adj. EPS (Rs)	200.5	259.6	354.2	177	230	317	13.5	13.1	11.6

Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 21: Annual Operational Performance Estimates (Console)

Operating Details	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Volume (mt)	105.6	119.1	125.9	150.1	168.3
YoY (%)	12.4	12.8	5.7	19.2	12.1
Utilization (%)	80	81	77	75	78
Realization (Rs)	5,988	5,952	5,668	5,681	5,739
YoY (%)	7.0	(0.6)	(4.8)	0.2	1.0
Cost per tonne (Rs)					
Raw Material Cost (Rs/mt)	920	999	1,055	1,097	1,134
Employee Cost/tn (Rs)	259	255	280	281	282
Power & Fuel Cost (Rs/mt)	1,751	1,535	1,355	1,255	1,135
Freight Cost/tn (Rs)	1,326	1,333	1,268	1,276	1,285
Other Expenses (Rs/mt)	726	742	760	769	777
Blended EBITDA(Rs/tn)	1,006	1,089	951	1,004	1,127

Source: Company, YES Sec

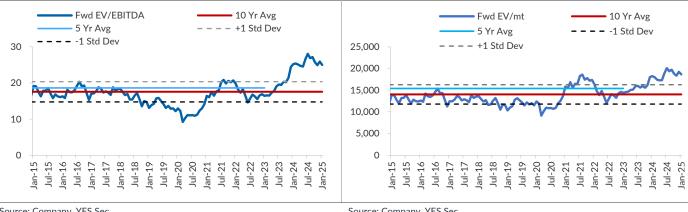
Exhibit 22: Valuation Summary

Valuation	Rs mn
Sep'26 e EBITDA (Rs mn)	170,110
Target Multiple (x)	16
EV (Rs mn)	2,721,762
Less: Net Debt (Rs mn)	112,232
Equity Value (Rs mn)	2,609,530
No of Shares (in mn)	289
Value of shares (Rs)	9,039
CMP (Rs)	11,296
Upside / (downside)	-20%



Exhibit 23: 1-yr forward EV/EBITDA band

Exhibit 24: 1-yr forward EV/te (\$) band



Source: Company, YES Sec



FINANCIALS

Exhibit 25: Balance Sheet (Console)

YE March (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Sources of funds					
Eq. Share Capital	2,887	2,887	2,887	2,887	2,887
Reserves & Surplus	540,359	599,388	637,054	690,338	769,479
Shareholders' Funds	543,245	602,275	639,941	693,225	772,366
Non-Controlling Interest	556	559	549	538	528
Total Loan Funds	110,577	114,030	177,840	185,260	160,388
Other liabilities	72,079	73,627	73,689	75,478	76,941
Total Liabilities	913,870	1,008,020	1,104,614	1,208,408	1,297,882
Application of funds					
Net Block	520,594	556,159	601,085	676,103	709,697
Right use of Assets	11,904	9,163	9,254	9,347	9,440
Capital WIP	40,349	67,828	76,500	40,000	31,500
Investments	72,970	82,490	135,816	150,933	163,284
Other non-current assets	118,991	115,646	115,846	126,012	134,335
Inventories	66,118	83,297	68,890	82,091	93,893
Trade Receivables	38,670	42,782	40,998	48,965	55,474
Cash & Bank Balances	11,496	7,832	13,112	23,470	41,927
Other current Assets	32,779	42,825	43,111	51,488	58,333
Total Current Assets	149,063	176,736	166,112	206,014	249,627
Trade Payables	72,093	84,783	78,963	94,306	106,843
Other Current Liabilities	115,318	132,746	133,633	159,601	180,817
Total Current Liabilities	187,411	217,529	212,596	253,907	287,660
Net Current Assets	(26,889)	(37,476)	(72,071)	(73,918)	(37,726)
Total Assets	913,870	1,008,020	1,104,614	1,208,408	1,297,882



Exhibit 26: Income statement (Console)

YE March (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net Sales	632,400	709,081	713,823	852,531	965,860
Expenses:					
Raw Materials	97,150	119,029	132,872	164,648	190,875
Employee Cost	27,390	30,376	35,255	42,168	47,466
P&F Cost	184,913	182,833	170,585	188,280	190,956
Freight cost	140,092	158,807	159,671	191,482	216,257
Other Expenses	76,657	88,351	95,652	115,340	130,698
EBITDA	106,199	129,686	119,788	150,613	189,608
Depreciation & Amortization	28,880	31,453	36,401	41,482	44,906
EBIT	77,319	98,233	83,387	109,130	144,701
Other Income	5,031	6,170	6,224	6,276	6,331
Finance cost	8,227	9,680	12,583	15,663	14,910
Exceptional items	-	(720)	-	-	-
PBT	74,122	94,002	77,028	99,743	136,122
Tax Expenses	23,429	24,183	19,257	24,936	34,030
Share in Profit / (Loss) of Asso and JV	40	220	92	118	143
Minority Interest	94	(10)	(11)	(11)	(11)
Profit from discontinued operations	-	-	-	-	-
RPAT	50,640	70,050	57,874	74,936	102,245
APAT	50,640	70,590	57,874	74,936	102,245

Source: Company, YES Sec

Exhibit 27: Cash Flow (Console)

YE March (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Operating profit before WC changes	105,298	130,291	126,104	157,007	196,082
Net chg in working capital	(3,370)	(4,811)	10,982	12,084	8,856
Income tax Paid	(11,243)	(16,505)	(19,257)	(24,936)	(34,030)
CFO	90,685	108,975	117,829	144,155	170,907
Adj. CFO	83,670	100,441	105,246	128,492	155,997
Capital expenditure	(62,195)	(90,056)	(89,945)	(80,114)	(70,128)
Other Investments	(9,676)	2,175	(53,673)	(25,261)	(20,639)
CFI	(71,871)	(87,881)	(143,619)	(105,375)	(90,767)
Adj FCF	21,475	10,385	15,301	48,378	85,869
Change in Equity	47	19	(0)	-	-
Debt (Incl. Interest)	(5,525)	(8,492)	51,278	(6,771)	(38,580)
Dividend	(10,913)	(10,944)	(20,208)	(21,651)	(23,104)
Others	81	161	-	-	-
CFF	(16,310)	(19,257)	31,070	(28,423)	(61,684)
Net chg in cash	2,504	1,838	5,280	10,358	18,457
Opening Cash & Eq	3,592	11,496	7,832	13,112	23,470
Other Adj:	5,400	(5,502)	-	-	-
Closing Cash & Eq	11,496	7,832	13,112	23,470	41,927

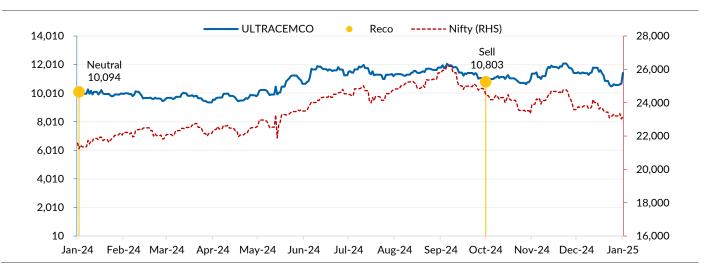


Exhibit 28: Ratio Analysis (Console)

YE March	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Growth Ratio (%)					
Revenue	20	12	1	19	13
EBITDA	(8)	22	(8)	26	26
Adjusted PAT	(31)	39	(18)	29	36
Margin Ratios (%)					
Gross Profit	85	83	81	81	80
EBITDA	17	18	17	18	20
EBIT	13	15	13	14	16
Core PBT	11	12	10	11	13
Adjusted PAT	8	10	8	9	11
Return Ratios (%)					
ROE	10	12	9	11	14
ROCE	9	11	9	10	13
Turnover Ratios (days)					
Gross Block Turnover (x)	1	1	1	1	1
Adj OCF/Adj PAT (%)	165	142	182	171	153
Inventory	35	38	39	32	33
Debtors	20	21	21	19	20
Creditors	38	40	42	37	38
Cash conversion cycle	18	19	18	14	15
Solvency Ratio (x)					
Debt-equity	0	0	0	0	C
Net debt-equity	0	0	0	0	C
Gross Debt/EBITDA	1	1	1	1	1
Current Ratio	1	1	1	1	1
Interest coverage ratio	10	11	7	7	10
Dividend					
DPS	38	70	75	80	85
Dividend Yield (%)	1	1	1	1	1
Dividend Payout (%)	22	29	37	31	24
Per share Ratios (Rs)					
Basic EPS (reported)	175	243	200	260	354
Adjusted EPS	175	245	200	260	354
CEPS	275	353	327	403	510
BVPS	1,884	2,088	2,219	2,403	2,677
Valuation (x)*					
Adj P/E	38	36	57	44	32
P/BV	4	4	5	5	4
EV/EBITDA	18	20	28	22	17
EV/Sales	3	4	5	4	3
Adj Mcap / Core PBT	27	28	45	34	24
	22	24	30	25	20



Recommendation Tracker





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