

HOLD

TP: Rs 1,934 | ▼ 4%

DALMIA BHARAT

| Cement

| 08 August 2023

Slow start; expected to catch up in H2

- Q1 muted as DBL restricted supply to safeguard prices but still failed to stave off a decline in realisations (-3% YoY)
- Cost/t softened marginally by 1.5% YoY but more could follow as the full benefit of lower energy cost unfolds
- TP revised marginally to Rs 1,934 (vs. Rs 1,917); retain HOLD

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Volume push restricted to safeguard realisations: Dalmia Bharat's (DBL) Q1FY23 revenue growth was muted at 10% YoY (-7% QoQ) to Rs 36.2bn as volumes and pricing were tepid. Volumes grew just 13% YoY (-5% QoQ) to 7mt while realisation fell 3% (-2% QoQ) to Rs 5,177/t as DBL restricted its volume push in a bid to safeguard pricing, indicating listless demand in its key operating regions.

Operational cost rises but cost curve turning favourable: Per-unit raw material cost rose 4% QoQ (+9% YoY) due to higher fly ash and slag prices, whereas logistics cost increased 5% QoQ (and YoY) pushed up by freight surcharge and increased interregional clinker movement. Despite this, the cost curve is showing signs of heading down as per-unit power and fuel cost fell 15% YoY.

EBITDA growth muted: EBITDA increased only 4% YoY (-14% QoQ) to Rs 6.1bn and the margin fell to 16.8% from 17.8% in the year-ago quarter on account of the soft realisations. EBITDA/t fell 9% YoY and QoQ to Rs 844 while adj. PAT dropped 34% YoY (-36% QoQ) to Rs 1.3bn.

Capacity expansion underway: DBL's cement capacity is currently at 41.6mn tonnes (Q1FY24) and the company is targeting 46.6mt by FY24-end. Further, it will add 2mt of clinker capacity over the same period to 23.7mt. The company has incurred Rs 9bn in capex during Q1 and expects to spend Rs 6bn-7bn in Q2 with total annual capex at Rs 63bn, of which Rs 35bn will be financed by debt.

Fairly valued; retain HOLD: With the ongoing expansion by FY24, DBL will have enough headroom to cater to incremental demand. Narrowing of the gap between regional dispatches and capacities will, however, be a challenge. The company has focused on sustainable balance sheet improvement and made a conscious effort to control debt. Even so, its relentless capex mode does imply intermittent periods of higher leverage going forward. Overall, we find current valuations fair at 11x FY25E EV/EBITDA. We revise our TP slightly to Rs 1,934 (vs. Rs 1,917), set at an unchanged 11x FY25E EV/EBITDA – an implied replacement cost of Rs 8.4bn/mt. HOLD.

Key changes

Target	Rating
▲	◀▶

Ticker/Price	DALBHARA IN/Rs 2,016
Market cap	US\$ 4.5bn
Free float	44%
3M ADV	US\$ 6.1mn
52wk high/low	Rs 2,289/Rs 1,476
Promoter/FPI/DII	56%/12%/8%

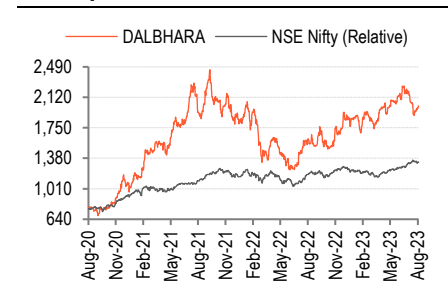
Source: NSE | Price as of 8 Aug 2023

Key financials

Y/E 31 Mar	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Total revenue (Rs mn)	1,35,400	1,53,921	1,73,932
EBITDA (Rs mn)	23,160	27,895	35,108
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	6,321	9,537	15,078
Adj. EPS (Rs)	34.2	51.5	81.5
Consensus EPS (Rs)	34.2	53.7	72.2
Adj. ROAE (%)	4.7	6.4	10.0
Adj. P/E (x)	59.0	39.1	24.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	16.4	14.5	11.3
Adj. EPS growth (%)	(41.9)	50.9	58.1

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



Fig 1 – Earnings call highlights

Parameter	Q1FY24	Q4FY23	Our view
Volume and Realisation	<p>Q1 volume growth was limited to 12% YoY as DBL focused on preserving realisations. Management expects recovery of regional market share from Q2. Volume growth will also be aided by contract manufacturing with Jaypee.</p> <p>Realisations were down in southern states, especially Tamil Nadu (TN). Management believes current prices are unsustainable and forecasts a marginal price hike post monsoon.</p>	<p>Net sales realisation grew ~4% YoY led by the stability and strengthening of prices in the east and northeast regions. However, this has not been sufficient to offset the adverse impact of input price inflation.</p> <p>DBL delivered double-digit sales volume growth in its southern and eastern markets.</p>	<p>We expect volume growth to pick up from H2FY24 but pricing recovery can be a challenge due to oversupply,</p>
Margins	<p>Tight pricing in southern and eastern regions suppressed margins. Further, cost inflation due to plant shutdowns and freight hikes (busy season surcharge continued through the year) added to the woes.</p> <p>States have imposed new surcharges on power consumption; hence, reduced grid usage is expected to sustain margin expansion.</p>	<p>Fuel cost was at Rs 2.1/kcal for Q4 and Rs 2.2 for the full year. Management expects ~5% reduction in cost for FY24.</p> <p>During Q4, variable cost was impacted due to consumption of high-cost opening inventory of clinker and cement.</p> <p>Pet coke price spiked from US\$ 141/t in FY22 to US\$ 198 in FY23, a 40% increase.</p> <p>DBL has taken initiatives such as commissioning of a 7MW WHRS and 4.5MW solar capacity. Benefits will accrue from FY24 onwards.</p>	<p>Captive power has become viable again as pet coke and thermal coal prices have reduced. This in addition to alternate sources of power will provide a respite on costs.</p>
Capacity	<p>Management has guided for cement capacity expansion of 2mt greenfield at Sattur, TN; 1mt brownfield at Ariyalur, TN, and Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh; and 0.9mt debottlenecking at Belgaum, Karnataka, by the end of FY24. This should raise total capacity from 41.6mt as of Q1 to 46.6mt.</p> <p>The Sattur plant is undergoing trial runs and will commence commercial operations at the tail end of Q2.</p> <p>DBL has also entered a contract manufacturing agreement with Jaypee until the acquisition's completion.</p> <p>Management has guided for clinker capacity expansion from 9.2mt to 10.4mt in the south, from 7.7mt to 8.3mt in the east, and from 2.7mt to 2.9mt in the north-east, thus raising total capacity from 21.7mt to 23.7mt by end-FY24.</p>	<p>With the Jaypee acquisition, DBL has reassessed its original expansion plan of 49mt and decided to defer the 2.5mt grinding unit expansion in Bihar. Due to this, organic expansion now stands at 46.6mt and total expansion, including Jaypee, moves to 56mt by end-FY24.</p> <p>With respect to grinding units in South India, cement capacity will first be expanded by Q1FY24 in Sattur (TN), followed by the setup of two cement units in Kadapa (Andhra Pradesh) and Ariyalur (TN).</p> <p>On account of exploration and revalidation of mining leases, DBL has been able to build limestone visibility of 18-20 years at its Murli (Maharashtra) plant.</p> <p>Renewable energy capacity has increased from 17MW in FY19 to 166MW by FY23-end. During FY24, DBL aims to take this to 184MW.</p>	<p>DBL has enough headroom capacity to handle incremental demand. Sweating of assets will be more challenging compared to capacity addition.</p>

Parameter	Q1FY24	Q4FY23	Our view
Capex	<p>Capex incurred in Q1FY24 stood at Rs 9bn. Management has guided for budgeted capex of Rs 6bn-7bn in Q2 and Rs 63bn in FY24, of which Rs 35bn will be financed by debt.</p>	<p>Capex was close to Rs 27bn during FY23. Budgeted capex for FY24 is in the range of Rs 50bn-55bn, including the payment made to JPA for the new acquisition in the central region. In FY25 as well, capex to be incurred on the JPA acquisition would be Rs 8bn-10bn.</p>	<p>Prudent capex for organic and inorganic capacity addition will be key for DBL.</p>
Other key points	<p>DBL has a target debt level of Rs 70bn-75bn by end-FY24. Debt will be used to finance capex and the Jaypee acquisition. Consequently, financing costs will rise.</p> <p>Depreciation charge has risen due to debottlenecking expenses, with Q2/FY24 depreciation charges guided to be higher by Rs 540mn/Rs 1.5bn for the same reason.</p> <p>The Jaypee acquisition is expected to be completed by FY24-end, delayed from this quarter due to delays in regulatory and lender approvals.</p>	<p>Sales-related incentives accrued in Q4 amounted to Rs 0.9bn, which takes the FY23 accrual to Rs 2.7bn. The collections during Q4 have been Rs 0.96bn (FY23: Rs 2.5bn). Average receivables as of 31 March stood at Rs 7bn. Including the Murli plant, management expects incentive accruals to be Rs 2.75bn-Rs 3bn for FY24.</p> <p>Gross debt has increased by Rs 6.2bn and the closing debt as of 31 March stood at Rs 37.6bn. Net debt/EBITDA was 0.3x.</p>	<p>DBL needs to keenly watch balance sheet health while maintaining the pace of capacity addition.</p>

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research | WHRS: Waste Heat Recovery System

Fig 1 – Key metrics

(Rs)	Q1FY24	Q1FY23	YoY (%)	Q4FY23	QoQ (%)
Volumes (mn mt)	7.0	6.2	12.9	7.4	(5.4)
Cement realisations (Rs/mt)	5,177	5,326	(2.8)	5,286	(2.1)
Operating costs (Rs/mt)*	4,306	4,376	(1.6)	4,331	(0.6)
EBITDA/t (Rs)	844	923	(8.5)	928	(9.0)

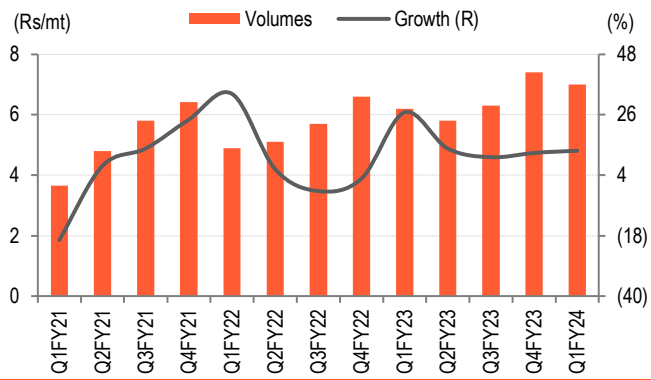
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research *Aggregate cost

Fig 2 – Quarterly performance

(Rs mn)	Q1FY24	Q1FY23	YoY (%)	Q4FY23	QoQ (%)
Net Sales	36,240	33,020	9.8	39,120	(7.4)
Expenditure					
Change in stock	(680)	(210)	223.8	1,720	(139.5)
Raw material	5,380	4,390	22.6	5,320	1.1
Purchased products	960	20	4,700.0	460	108.7
Power & fuel	9,020	9,520	(5.3)	8,710	3.6
Freight	8,090	6,820	18.6	8,220	(1.6)
Employee costs	2,220	1,980	12.1	1,910	16.2
Other expense	5,150	4,610	11.7	5,710	(9.8)
Total Operating Expenses	30,140	27,130	11.1	32,050	(6.0)
EBITDA	6,100	5,890	3.6	7,070	(13.7)
EBITDA margin (%)	16.8	17.8	(101bps)	18.1	(124bps)
Other Income	570	220	159.1	410	39.0
Interest	830	470	76.6	640	29.7
Depreciation	3,990	3,120	27.9	3,360	18.8
Share of profit from associate and joint venture	0	170	(100.0)	0	0
PBT	1,850	2,520	(26.6)	3,480	(46.8)
Non-recurring items	0	0	0.0	3,850	(100.0)
PBT (after non-recurring items)	1,850	2,520	(26.6)	7,330	(74.8)
Tax	410	640	(35.9)	1,250	(67.2)
PAT	1,300	1,960	(33.7)	5,880	(77.9)
Minority Interest	(140)	(90)	55.6	(200)	(30.0)
Adjusted PAT	1,300	1,960	(33.7)	2,030	(36.0)
NPM (%)	3.6	5.9	(235bps)	5.2	(160.2)
Adjusted EPS (Rs)	7.0	10.6	(33.7)	11.0	(36.0)

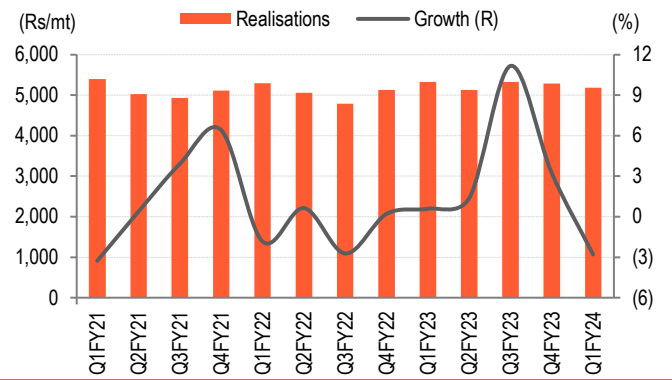
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 3 – Volume growth slowed in Q1FY24



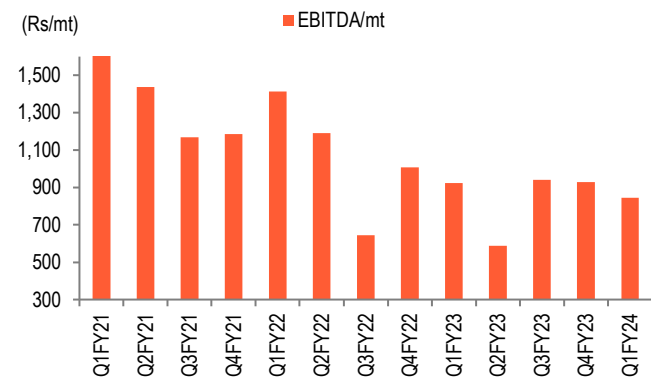
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 4 – Realisations disappointed as well



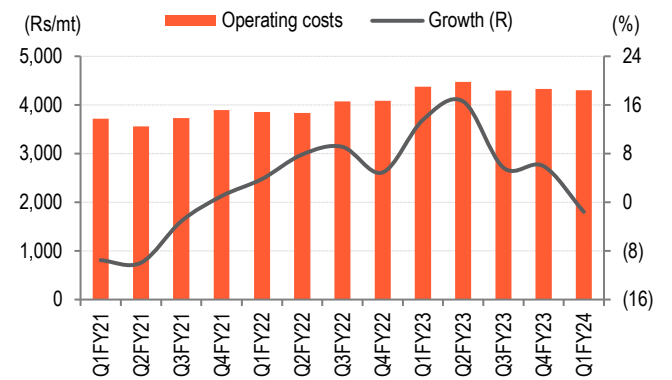
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 5 – EBITDA/t dragged down by lower realisations



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 6 – Cost reduction commendable; more could follow



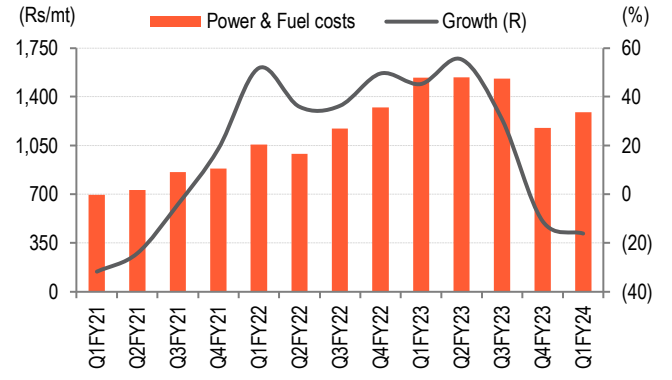
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 7 – Freight cost hardens due to inward movement



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 8 – Fuel cost reduction benefit to reflect from Q2FY24



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Valuation methodology

With the ongoing expansion to 46mt by end-FY24, DBL will have enough headroom to cater to incremental demand. Narrowing of the gap between regional dispatches and capacities (~20mt) will, however, be a challenge. The company has focused on sustainable balance sheet improvement over the last 3-4 years and made a conscious effort to control debt. Even so, its relentless capex mode does imply intermittent periods of higher leverage going forward.

Overall, we believe current valuations are fair at 11x FY25E EV/EBITDA. We revise our TP slightly to Rs 1,934 (vs. Rs 1,917), set at an unchanged 11x FY25E EV/EBITDA – an implied replacement cost of Rs 8.4bn/mt. Maintain HOLD.

Fig 9 – Key assumptions

Parameter	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
Volumes (mt)	22.41	24.86	28.10	31.33
Realisations (Rs/mt)	4,956	5,229	5,360	5,440
Operating costs (Rs/mt)	3,951	4,514	4,486	4,431
EBITDA/mt (Rs)	1,095	931	993	1,121

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 10 – Valuation summary

Business (Rs mn)	FY25E
Target FY25E EV/EBITDA (x)	11
EBITDA (FY25E)	351,08
Target EV	382,678
Total EV	382,678
Net debt (FY25E)	24,989
Target market capitalisation	357,689
Target price (Rs/sh)	1933.5
Weighted average shares (mn)	185.0

Source: BOBCAPS Research

Fig 11 – Peer comparison

Ticker	Rating	TP (Rs)	EV/EBITDA (x)			EV/tonne (US\$)			ROE (%)			ROCE (%)		
			FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
DALBHARA IN	HOLD	1,934	16.5	14.5	11.4	126	127	124	4.0	6.3	9.9	5.4	7.2	10.0
SRCM IN	HOLD	24,656	28	20	15	207	205	201	6	11	14	9	15	18
ACC IN	HOLD	2,090	19.1	13.8	8.1	95	94	87	5.1	7.0	11.3	6.7	9.4	14.9

Source: BOBCAPS Research

Key risks

- Faster-than-expected cost deflation and better realisations pose upside risks to our earnings estimates.
- Slower-than-expected market recovery, sluggish demand pickup and fuel cost inflation represent key downside risks to earnings.

Sector recommendation snapshot

Company	Ticker	Market Cap (US\$ bn)	Price (Rs)	Target (Rs)	Rating
ACC	ACC IN	4.6	2,001	1,964	HOLD
Ambuja Cements	ACEM IN	11.3	466	375	HOLD
Dalmia Bharat	DALBHARA IN	4.5	2,016	1,934	HOLD
JK Cement	JKCE IN	3.1	3,283	3,474	HOLD
JK Lakshmi Cement	JKLC IN	0.9	655	551	SELL
Shree Cement	SRCM IN	10.7	24,270	24,656	HOLD
The Ramco Cements	TRCL IN	2.4	848	585	SELL
Ultratech Cement	UTCEM IN	28.6	8,157	9,396	HOLD

Source: BOBCAPS Research, NSE | Price as of 8 Aug 2023

Financials

Income Statement

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Total revenue	1,01,100	1,12,860	1,35,400	1,53,921	1,73,932
EBITDA	27,700	24,310	23,160	27,895	35,108
Depreciation	(12,500)	(12,360)	(13,050)	(14,225)	(15,078)
EBIT	17,010	13,500	11,490	15,267	21,873
Net interest inc./(exp.)	(3,030)	(2,020)	(2,349)	(3,292)	(3,181)
Other inc./(exp.)	1,810	1,550	1,380	1,597	1,843
Exceptional items	(340)	(20)	3,850	0	0
EBT	13,640	11,460	12,991	11,975	18,692
Income taxes	(1,780)	140	(2,420)	(2,286)	(3,461)
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Min. int./Inc. from assoc.	(150)	(160)	(400)	(153)	(153)
Reported net profit	11,710	11,440	10,171	9,537	15,078
Adjustments	(340)	(20)	3,850	0	0
Adjusted net profit	12,050	11,460	6,321	9,537	15,078

Balance Sheet

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Accounts payables	14,890	15,300	18,120	28,529	30,452
Other current liabilities	15,220	15,810	20,630	21,407	20,362
Provisions	3,170	6,060	3,200	3,520	3,872
Debt funds	40,530	33,600	39,800	48,777	47,138
Other liabilities	17,810	19,620	14,940	19,784	19,686
Equity capital	390	390	370	370	370
Reserves & surplus	1,28,070	1,57,210	1,56,900	1,44,303	1,57,430
Shareholders' fund	1,28,800	1,58,320	1,58,430	1,45,229	1,58,454
Total liab. and equities	2,20,420	2,48,710	2,55,120	2,67,245	2,79,964
Cash and cash eq.	35,400	45,590	32,200	18,062	22,149
Accounts receivables	5,110	6,730	7,000	8,198	9,543
Inventories	7,600	9,450	13,160	15,049	17,129
Other current assets	18,590	23,340	30,300	30,033	31,535
Investments	7,400	13,050	5,890	5,890	9,890
Net fixed assets	95,510	1,01,220	96,351	1,21,658	1,18,630
CWIP	10,070	10,480	18,590	14,872	14,723
Intangible assets	40,740	38,850	51,629	53,484	56,365
Deferred tax assets, net	0	0	0	0	0
Other assets	0	0	0	0	0
Total assets	2,20,420	2,48,710	2,55,120	2,67,245	2,79,964

Cash Flows

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Cash flow from operations	21,780	17,430	19,870	32,403	20,125
Capital expenditures	(11,630)	(12,580)	(36,159)	(32,627)	(8,394)
Change in investments	(12,170)	(16,710)	21,800	16,706	(5,000)
Other investing cash flows	0	0	0	0	0
Cash flow from investing	(23,800)	(29,290)	(14,359)	(15,922)	(13,394)
Equities issued/Others	(4,010)	340	250	(757)	(55)
Debt raised/repaid	(10,370)	(6,930)	6,200	8,977	(1,639)
Interest expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	0	(1,000)	(1,690)	(1,665)	(1,850)
Other financing cash flows	14,840	18,580	(9,021)	(20,469)	(100)
Cash flow from financing	460	10,990	(4,261)	(13,915)	(3,644)
Chg in cash & cash eq.	(1,560)	(870)	1,250	2,567	3,087
Closing cash & cash eq.	35,400	45,590	32,200	18,062	22,149

Per Share

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Reported EPS	60.1	58.7	55.0	51.5	81.5
Adjusted EPS	61.8	58.8	34.2	51.5	81.5
Dividend per share	0.0	5.1	9.1	9.0	10.0
Book value per share	660.5	811.9	856.4	785.0	856.5

Valuations Ratios

Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
EV/Sales	3.7	3.2	2.8	2.6	2.3
EV/EBITDA	13.6	14.8	16.4	14.5	11.3
Adjusted P/E	32.6	34.3	59.0	39.1	24.7
P/BV	3.1	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.4

DuPont Analysis

Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	87.0	101.2	81.4	80.9	81.5
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	82.2	85.0	79.6	78.4	85.5
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	16.8	12.0	8.5	9.9	12.6
Asset turnover (Rev./Avg TA)	47.1	48.1	53.7	58.9	63.6
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8
Adjusted ROAE	10.3	8.1	4.7	6.4	10.0

Ratio Analysis

Y/E 31 Mar	FY21A	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	4.5	11.6	20.0	13.7	13.0
EBITDA	33.0	(12.2)	(4.7)	20.4	25.9
Adjusted EPS	437.9	(4.9)	(41.9)	50.9	58.1
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	27.4	21.5	17.1	18.1	20.2
EBIT margin	16.8	12.0	8.5	9.9	12.6
Adjusted profit margin	11.9	10.2	4.7	6.2	8.7
Adjusted ROAE	10.3	8.1	4.7	6.4	10.0
ROCE	9.5	6.8	5.4	7.2	10.0
Working capital days (days)					
Receivables	18	22	19	19	20
Inventory	27	31	35	36	36
Payables	74	63	59	83	80
Ratios (x)					
Gross asset turnover	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Current ratio	2.0	2.3	2.0	1.3	1.5
Net interest coverage ratio	5.6	6.7	4.9	4.6	6.9
Adjusted debt/equity	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research | Note: TA = Total Assets

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BUY – Expected return >+15%

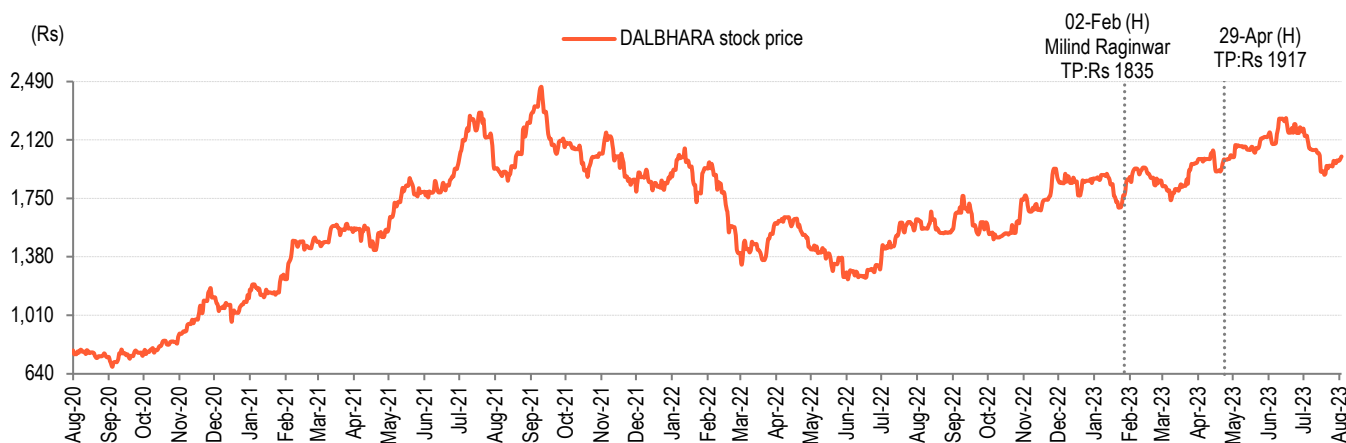
HOLD – Expected return from -6% to +15%

SELL – Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

Our recommendation scale does not factor in short-term stock price volatility related to market fluctuations. Thus, our recommendations may not always be strictly in line with the recommendation scale as shown above.

Ratings and Target Price (3-year history): DALMIA BHARAT (DALBHARA IN)



B – Buy, H – Hold, S – Sell, A – Add, R – Reduce

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