

RESEARCH**WIPRO | TARGET: Rs 312 | +11% | HOLD**

Big margin surprise induces rating upgrade

TECH MAHINDRA | TARGET: Rs 1,949 | +17% | BUY

Looks a bit ahead of plan on margins. Steady progress...

RBL BANK | TARGET: Rs 170 | +10% | HOLD

Sharp provisioning weighs on profitability

BOB ECONOMICS RESEARCH | RUPEE VALUATION

What's next for INR?

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK | TARGET: Rs 2,074 | +18% | BUY

Steady performance, asset quality stable

SBI LIFE | TARGET: Rs 1,995 | +30% | BUY

A healthy quarter

HAVELLS INDIA | TARGET: Rs 1,800 | +14% | HOLD

Margin miss; recovery expected ahead

SUMMARY**WIPRO**

- Both revenue and margins were better than our estimates. The EBIT margin beat of 130bps versus our estimate was a big +ve surprise
- Wipro is more hopeful for 2025 vis-à-vis 2024. For 4QFY25 it is -1%+1% CC revenue growth. Raise EPS in FY26/FY27 by ~10% on margins
- We reduce target PE multiple discount to 15% from 25% vis-à-vis benchmark TCS and raise Wipro to a HOLD from SELL

[Click here](#) for the full report.



TECH MAHINDRA

- 3QFY25 was better than expected in terms of revenue and especially on margins. The latter despite large currency headwinds and investments
- The margin improvement is ahead of plan and gives TML the leeway to increase compensation in 4QFY25. Steady progress on deal wins
- We raise rating from Hold to Buy. Modest EPS upgrade and recent stock correction lead us to this action. It is our top pick in Tier-1 space

[Click here](#) for the full report.

RBL BANK

- Provisions more than doubled in Q3 leading to PBT loss, this was on account of higher provisioning in the MFI portfolio
- Consequently, credit cost increased sharply to 5.3%, vs. 2.8% in Q2FY25, which weighed on profitability
- Business growth too was moderate in Q3FY25. Hence, we revise our estimates, and adjust our rating to HOLD and TP to Rs 170

[Click here](#) for the full report.

INDIA ECONOMICS: RUPEE VALUATION

The rupee has been quite volatile in the last two weeks with the tendency being more pronounced since the US Elections. While a wider trade deficit and FPI outflows contributed to this volatility, the primary factor driving the rupee down appeared to be the US-factor. The high probability of complete implementation of the economic package under President Donald Trump, which includes higher tariffs, lower corporate taxes, embargoes on migration among others, has made the dollar stronger.

[Click here](#) for the full report.

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK

- Healthy credit growth-driven broad-based growth; deposits too grew strong, while CASA remain muted
- Higher other income and lower opex supported healthy PPop, in line with our estimates
- Anticipating stable asset quality, we revise our growth estimates and, hence, our TP to Rs 2,074 (from Rs 2,040) but maintain BUY

[Click here](#) for the full report.

SBI LIFE

- Strong APE growth YoY while margins contract in 9M on shift towards ULIP mix and new surrender guidelines
- Expect margins to improve supported by protection business and overall APE growth
- SBILIFE is attractively valued with long-term story intact, management reiterates VNB and VNB margin guidance

[Click here](#) for the full report.

HAVELLS INDIA

- Q3 revenue grew ~11%, driven by festive demand. However, EBITDAM contracted 110bps due to higher staff costs and other expenses
- ECD & Lloyd drove topline growth; while margin pressure in ECD and Switchgear is expected to normalise by FY26
- We cut our FY25E-FY27E EPS by 5% post Q3 results. We roll forward our valuation to Dec'26, with new TP of Rs 1,800. Maintain HOLD

[Click here](#) for the full report.

HOLD
 TP: Rs 312 | ▲ 11%

WIPRO

| IT Services

| 18 January 2025

Big margin surprise induces rating upgrade

- Both revenue and margins were better than our estimates. The EBIT margin beat of 130bps versus our estimate was a big +ve surprise
- Wipro is more hopeful for 2025 vis-à-vis 2024. For 4QFY25 it is -1%-+1% CC revenue growth. Raise EPS in FY26/FY27 by ~10% on margins
- We reduce target PE multiple discount to 15% from 25% vis-à-vis benchmark TCS and raise Wipro to a HOLD from SELL

Girish Pai

research@bobcaps.in

Extent of margin improvement a big surprise: 130bps margin surprise to our estimate seems to have come from improved execution rigor both in core and in consulting business. Utilization, offshoring, and fixed-price productivity has played out. There was also a very conscious reduction in terms of G&A costs. We suspect higher utilization in Capco and Rizing and possibly usage of higher offshore resources in them also were key drivers. The move to 17.5% was supposed to be a medium-term one but has been brought forward. This is despite facing headwinds of salary increase, furloughs, cross currency, etc.

Mixed QoQ growth: Americas 1 grew 3.9% QoQ in CC terms. Growth was primarily led by Health care, Technology and communication sectors. Americas 2 grew 0.6%. Europe/APMEA declined by 2.7%/2.1%. Health care grew 6.7% while BFSI declined 1.9%.

Discretionary spend improvement: Capco saw order inflow growth of 9% YoY and revenue growth of 11%. Wipro said discretionary spend was improving cautiously. We thought its commentary was bit muted on discretionary spending compared to that of Infosys and TCS. It also stated that the overall pipeline has remained at the same level over the last year.

Changed capital allocation policy: Probably due to the new taxation policy on buybacks announced in the 2024 budget, Wipro has announced that it would pay out 70% of its net income as dividends in a block of 3 years. This is effective FY'26. Previously it was 50%.

Raise rating to HOLD from SELL: The margin surprise and the likely sustainability at a higher level going forward with a potential further improvement makes us raise our EPS estimate for FY26/FY27 by ~10% each. We are also valuing Dec '26 EPS at 20.9x, which is a 15% discount to the 24.6x Target PE multiple for our sector benchmark TCS. We have reduced the PE multiple discount from 25%. Srinu Pallia, the new CEO, must deliver on growth for the discount to narrow further.

Key changes

| | Target | Rating |
|--|--------|--------|
| | ▲ | ▲ |

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Ticker/Price | WPRO IN/Rs 282 |
| Market cap | US\$ 34.0bn |
| Free float | 27% |
| 3M ADV | US\$ 43.6mn |
| 52wk high/low | Rs 596/Rs 281 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 73%/8%/8% |

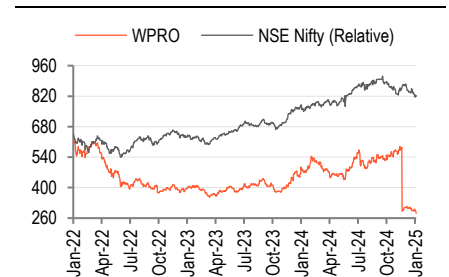
Source: NSE | Price as of 17 Jan 2025

Key financials

| Y/E 31 Mar | FY24A | FY25E | FY26E |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn) | 8,97,603 | 8,95,033 | 9,70,186 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn) | 1,76,379 | 1,87,446 | 2,16,553 |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 1,10,452 | 1,30,547 | 1,44,526 |
| Adj. EPS (Rs) | 10.4 | 12.5 | 13.8 |
| Adj. ROAE (%) | 14.4 | 16.8 | 17.6 |
| Adj. P/E (x) | 27.2 | 22.6 | 20.5 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 16.5 | 15.6 | 13.5 |
| Adj. EPS growth (%) | 0.2 | 20.1 | 10.7 |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



BUY
 TP: Rs 1,949 | ▲ 17%

TECH MAHINDRA

| IT Services

| 18 January 2025

Looks a bit ahead of plan on margins. Steady progress...

- 3QFY25 was better than expected in terms of revenue and especially on margins. The latter despite large currency headwinds and investments
- The margin improvement is ahead of plan and gives TML the leeway to increase compensation in 4QFY25. Steady progress on deal wins
- We raise rating from Hold to Buy. Modest EPS upgrade and recent stock correction lead us to this action. It is our top pick in Tier-1 space

Girish Pai

research@bobcaps.in

Steady progress being made to achieve FY27 goals: The goals are of revenue growth being ahead of peer average and EBIT margin at 15% and with high deal of predictability:

Better than expected 3QFY25: On revenue growth and most specifically on EBIT margin. The latter improved 60bps QoQ despite a 260bps cross currency headwind and heightened investments. This means that the underlying margin improvement has been ahead of plan. We believe the margin improvement is due to higher level of automation and getting better pricing on the services sold.

Business quality is steadily improving: Tech Mahindra (TML) says that it onboarded 40 plus new clients from the must-have category so far in FY25, of which 12 were onboarded in 3Q itself. Over two dozen accounts from these now have a revenue run rate above a million dollars annually, and TML won six large deals from these accounts.

The steady improvement in net new deal wins is driven by two main factors: (1) Expanded the overall deal funnel by increasing the pipeline size. This has been achieved through strategic investments in ecosystem partnerships, strengthening relationships with advisory firms, and bringing in new talent that enables access a wider range of opportunities. (2) Improved Win Rates and Contracting Discipline

Raise rating to Buy: Modest EPS upgrade and recent stock correction lead us to this action. It is our top pick in Tier-1 space. We believe there are still many skeptics on TML. We believe consensus will start to believe in the narrative of TML management and that could lead to EPS upgrades. Especially after 3QFY25 margin performance in the face of significant headwinds. We value TML at 24.6x Dec '26 EPS. The target PE is the same as what we have ascribed to our industry benchmark – TCS. We believe that it deserves this as it will likely grow its earnings the fastest in the Tie-1 space with an EPS CAGR of 34% over FY25-FY27. We expect margins to expand beyond the 15% level too beyond FY27.

Key changes

| | Target | Rating |
|--|--------|--------|
| | ▲ | ▲ |

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Ticker/Price | TECHM IN/Rs 1,660 |
| Market cap | US\$ 17.0bn |
| Free float | 65% |
| 3M ADV | US\$ 38.3mn |
| 52wk high/low | Rs 1,808/Rs 1,163 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 35%/24%/31% |

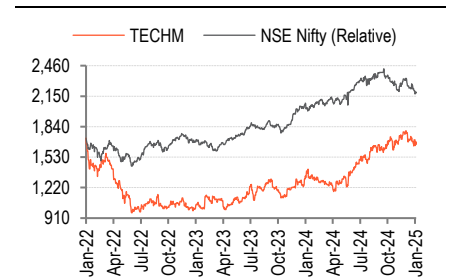
Source: NSE | Price as of 17 Jan 2025

Key financials

| Y/E 31 Mar | FY24A | FY25E | FY26E |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn) | 5,19,955 | 5,33,541 | 5,79,305 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn) | 49,646 | 70,149 | 92,867 |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 23,579 | 42,460 | 57,749 |
| Adj. EPS (Rs) | 26.5 | 47.0 | 64.4 |
| Adj. ROAE (%) | 8.6 | 16.2 | 22.0 |
| Adj. P/E (x) | 62.7 | 35.3 | 25.8 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 28.3 | 20.0 | 15.1 |
| Adj. EPS growth (%) | (51.6) | 77.4 | 37.0 |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



HOLD
 TP: Rs 170 | ▲ 10%

RBL BANK

| Banking

| 20 January 2025

Sharp provisioning weighs on profitability

- Provisions more than doubled in Q3 leading to PBT loss, this was on account of higher provisioning in the MFI portfolio
- Consequently, credit cost increased sharply to 5.3%, vs. 2.8% in Q2FY25, which weighed on profitability
- Business growth too was moderate in Q3FY25. Hence, we revise our estimates, and adjust our rating to HOLD and TP to Rs 170

Moderate business growth: RBK posted moderate credit growth of 13% YoY (+3% QoQ) in Q3FY25. Housing (up 6% QoQ), business banking (up 12% QoQ) and vehicle portfolio (up 11% QoQ) aided the loan book growth during the quarter. Deposits too was modest which grew 15% YoY (down 1% QoQ). CASA ratio was lower at 32.8% vs. 33.6% in Q2FY25. While the wholesale and secured retail business continued to do well, MFI and credit cards portfolio saw de-growth/muted growth.

Higher provisioning a drag on profitability: PAT declined significantly (down 86% YoY) owing to sharp increase in the credit costs in the MFI book. Credit cost stood at 5.3% vs. 2.8% in Q2FY25. NIM contracted by 14bps QoQ to 4.9% impacted by interest reversals and slowdown in disbursements in MFI portfolio.

Asset quality a concern: RBK saw increased slippages in Q3FY25 particularly in MFI and card portfolio. GNPA stood at 2.92% (+4bps QoQ) while NNPA was lower at 0.53% (down 26bps QoQ) on account of provisions. The slippage ratio increased to 1.49% vs. 1.18% in Q2FY25 with ~85% coming from the card and MFI portfolio. Almost 3% and 8% of credit card and MFI portfolio slipped to NPA and management expects similar level of slippages in Q4FY25. Credit card slippages is expected to improve going forward. The bank had made accelerated provisions of Rs 4.1bn towards its JLG loans.

Assume coverage of RBK with HOLD: Considering a higher stress in the MFI and credit card book, we estimate higher credit costs of 2.2-3% going forward in FY25E-FY27E. While the bank has increased coverage to 82% from 73% in Q2FY25, credit cost is likely to remain elevated aided by these two segments. Loan growth to be moderate with wholesale and secured retail business continuing to do well. The stock may witness pressure in the near term on account of lower growth in loan book and deterioration in the asset quality. Hence, we have a HOLD rating (from BUY) and lower our TP to Rs 170 (earlier Rs 276) for the stock as it offers limited upside at the current valuation of 0.6x Dec'26 ABV.

Vijiya Rao

research@bobcaps.in

Key changes

| Target | Rating |
|--------|--------|
| ▼ | ▼ |

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Ticker/Price | RBK IN/Rs 155 |
| Market cap | US\$ 1.1bn |
| Free float | 100% |
| 3M ADV | US\$ 22.2mn |
| 52wk high/low | Rs 287/Rs 148 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 0%/21%/18% |

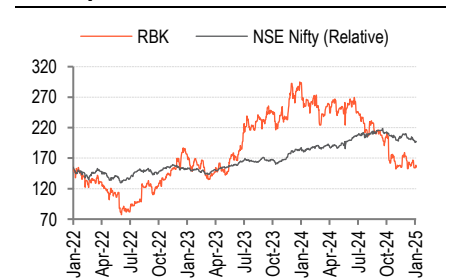
Source: NSE | Price as of 17 Jan 2025

Key financials

| Y/E 31 Mar | FY24A | FY25E | FY26E |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| NII (Rs mn) | 60,429 | 68,268 | 80,777 |
| NII growth (%) | 35.8 | 13.0 | 18.3 |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 11,679 | 9,190 | 16,773 |
| EPS (Rs) | 19.4 | 15.2 | 27.6 |
| Consensus EPS (Rs) | 19.4 | 26.0 | 33.5 |
| P/E (x) | 8.0 | 10.2 | 5.6 |
| P/BV (x) | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| ROA (%) | 0.9 | 0.6 | 1.1 |
| ROE (%) | 8.2 | 6.0 | 10.1 |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



RUPEE VALUATION

17 January 2025

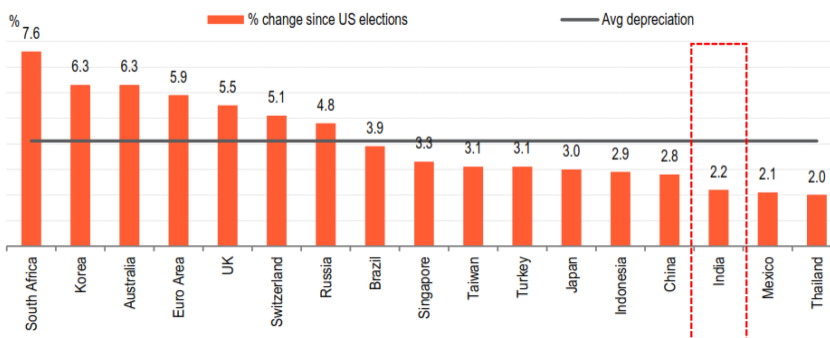
What's next for INR?

The rupee has been quite volatile in the last two weeks with the tendency being more pronounced since the US Elections. While a wider trade deficit and FPI outflows contributed to this volatility, the primary factor driving the rupee down appeared to be the US-factor. The high probability of complete implementation of the economic package under President Donald Trump, which includes higher tariffs, lower corporate taxes, embargoes on migration among others, has made the dollar stronger.

Aditi Gupta | Dipanwita Mazumdar
Economist

As reported in our fortnightly reports on currency, the rupee appeared to be a better performing currency with selective interventions by the RBI. Figure 1 shows the change in value of global currencies since 1 Nov 2024, which is before the US elections result till 10 Jan 2025. There has been significant pressure on all major currencies, which depreciated anywhere between 7.6% (South Africa Rand) to 2% (Thailand Bhat). In the same period, the dollar, as measured by the DXY rose by 5.1%. The average depreciation in the sample of currencies is 4%, in comparison, INR depreciated by only 2.2%.

Fig 1: Change in currencies between 1 Nov 2024 to 10 Jan 2025



Source: Bloomberg, Bank of Baroda Research | Data as of 10 Jan 2025

The rupee breached the 86.50 barrier on 13th Jan 2025 after ending just shy of the 86/\$ mark on Friday the 10th. This marked the Rupee's sharpest single day fall since Feb'23. In fact, in the 47 sessions since the Nov'24, the INR has dipped to a record low in roughly 30 of these sessions. Incidentally, the pace of the Rupee's decline has quickened sharply in the last few sessions leading to speculation on where the rupee will go. While considerable spot sale of dollars as well as forward transactions by the RBI have been used, the rupee continues to go downwards. Forex reserves have already fallen by US\$ 70bn from a peak of US\$ 705 bn on 27 Sep 2024.



BUY
 TP: Rs 2,074 | ▲ 18%

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK

| Banking

| 20 January 2025

Steady performance, asset quality stable

- **Healthy credit growth-driven broad-based growth; deposits too grew strong, while CASA remain muted**
- **Higher other income and lower opex supported healthy PPOP, in line with our estimates**
- **Anticipating stable asset quality, we revise our growth estimates and, hence, our TP to Rs 2,074 (from Rs 2,040) but maintain BUY**

Vijiya Rao

research@bobcaps.in

Steady QoQ performance: KMB registered healthy business performance despite tough competitive environment with stable asset quality. Advances grew 15% YoY (4% QoQ) to Rs 4,138.4bn. Deposits rose 16% YoY (3% QoQ). Asset quality remained stable with GNPA ratio at 1.5% in Q3FY25. NII came in at par with our estimates at Rs 72bn, up 10% YoY (3% QoQ). Management indicated that the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) embargo on onboarding new customers through digital means and addition of new credit card customers had an impact but was in line with its initial estimates. However, the bank did not give a timeline for the removal of the embargo. We expect the bank to clock loan growth at CAGR of ~12% over FY24-FY27E.

Other income declined: Other income fell 2% QoQ (up 14% YoY) while opex was softer sequentially leading to in-line PPOP in Q3FY25. Consequently, C/I ratio was at 47.2% vs. 47.5% in Q2FY25. PPOP rose 14% YoY (2% QoQ).

Robust business growth: Deposits grew 16% YoY with low-cost CASA deposits staying flat QoQ and muted at 3% YoY. Consequently, the CASA ratio was at 42.33% vs. 43.62% in Q2FY25. Healthy credit growth was supported by corporate and business banking (up 4% QoQ and 5% QoQ), home loans (4% QoQ), CVs (up 4% QoQ) and secured book (up 4% QoQ). We broadly maintain credit/deposit growth with PAT growth estimates of 10%/12% for FY26/FY27.

Stable asset quality: GNPA ratio was stable at 1.5% in Q3FY25 with at 73.2% vs. 71.4% in Q2FY25. Credit cost increased by 12bps QoQ to 0.80%.

Maintain BUY: KMB’s business seems to be on track although prevailing tough macro-economic conditions. Further, the asset quality improved. Management indicated that it has made significant progress on the IT front and is addressing concerns on the embargo which would be a key monitorable in the near term. We estimate RoA/RoE at 2.2-2.3%/13-13.2% over FY26E- FY27E and raise our SOTP-based TP to Rs 2,074 (vs Rs 2,040) set at 2.1x Dec’26 ABV using the Gordon Growth Model. This includes Rs 769/sh as the value of subsidiaries.

Key changes

| Target | Rating |
|--------|--------|
| ▲ | ◀ ▶ |

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Ticker/Price | KMB IN/Rs 1,759 |
| Market cap | US\$ 40.4bn |
| Free float | 74% |
| 3M ADV | US\$ 78.2mn |
| 52wk high/low | Rs 1,942/Rs 1,544 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 26%/33%/28% |

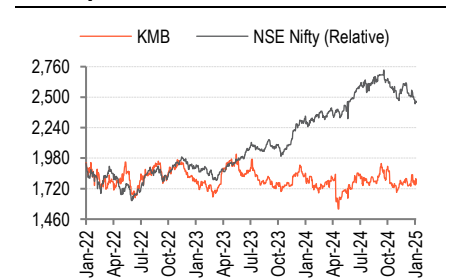
Source: NSE | Price as of 17 Jan 2025

Key financials

| Y/E 31 Mar | FY24A | FY25E | FY26E |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| NII (Rs mn) | 2,59,932 | 2,94,637 | 3,38,319 |
| NII growth (%) | 20.6 | 13.4 | 14.8 |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 1,37,896 | 1,52,464 | 1,67,176 |
| EPS (Rs) | 69.4 | 76.7 | 84.1 |
| Consensus EPS (Rs) | 69.3 | 73.1 | 80.6 |
| P/E (x) | 25.4 | 22.9 | 20.9 |
| P/BV (x) | 3.6 | 2.9 | 2.6 |
| ROA (%) | 2.5 | 2.4 | 2.3 |
| ROE (%) | 15.3 | 14.2 | 13.2 |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



BUY

TP: Rs 1,995 | ▲ 30%

SBI LIFE

| Insurance

| 20 January 2025

A healthy quarter

- **Strong APE growth YoY while margins contract in 9M on shift towards ULIP mix and new surrender guidelines**
- **Expect margins to improve supported by protection business and overall APE growth**
- **SBILIFE is attractively valued with long-term story intact, management reiterates VNB and VNB margin guidance**

Vijiya Rao

research@bobcaps.in

Strong APE: SBILIFE's APE witnessed strong growth of 29% YoY in Q3FY25 and 11% YoY in 9MFY25 on a high base and gross premium increased at a robust 11% YoY and 9% in 9MFY25. This was led by Individual APE growth of 11% in 9MFY25 and 10% YoY in Q3FY25 vs. industry growth of 6% YoY in Q3FY25. NBP was flat in 9MFY25 to Rs 262.6bn with market share of 22.4% vs. 25.3% in 9MFY24. We expect APE to grow at a CAGR of ~10% in FY24-FY27E.

Contraction in margin: Despite robust APE growth, VNB margin contracted by 45bps YoY to 26.9% in Q3FY25, down ~120bps YoY in 9MFY25. This was primarily on account of new surrender regulations and increase in the share of ULIPs in the product mix. However, the company indicated that the margins remain stable except in non-par protection where repricing was undertaken in Q1 and Q2. While in Q3 the margin expanded owing to new product rider launch. It reiterated its margin guidance to be in the range of 27-29% going forward with medium-term margin guidance of 27% vs. earlier guidance of 26-27% in FY25E.

Increase in ULIP share: SBILIFE's ULIP share increased to 67% in the product mix on an APE basis in 9MFY25 vs. 61% in 9MFY24 on account of buoyant equity markets. This seems to have impacted the VNB margins in 9MFY25. However, management indicated that non-par margins improved during the quarter.

New product added: The company added that the non-par guaranteed savings product Smart Platina Supreme, which was received well, had a premium collection of Rs 2.5bn in a span of 20 days. This enhanced the company's overall margins and management indicated that the margins on this product is better than the existing products.

Assume coverage with BUY: We expect SBILIFE to register strong growth in APE supported by protection products and to be able to maintain margins going ahead. We believe the company could clock margin of 26-28% in FY25E-FY27E. We assume coverage on SBILIFE and maintain BUY, but lower TP to Rs 1,995, from Rs 2,040, assigning a multiple of 2.3x (previously 2.5x) to its Dec'26 P/EV.

Key changes

| Target | Rating |
|--------|--------|
| ▼ | ◀ ▶ |

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Ticker/Price | SBILIFE IN/Rs 1,541 |
| Market cap | US\$ 17.8bn |
| Free float | 45% |
| 3M ADV | US\$ 32.5mn |
| 52wk high/low | Rs 1,936/Rs 1,308 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 55%/22%/18% |

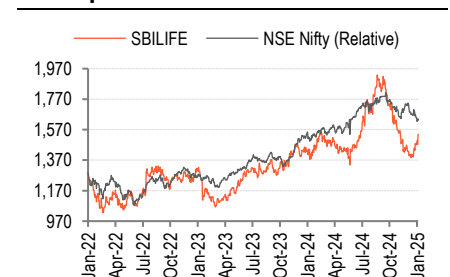
Source: NSE | Price as of 17 Jan 2025

Key financials

| Y/E 31 Mar | FY24A | FY25E | FY26E |
|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| NBP (Rs mn) | 3,82,383 | 4,15,541 | 4,80,780 |
| APE (Rs mn) | 1,97,200 | 2,28,159 | 2,62,039 |
| VNB (Rs mn) | 55,500 | 61,375 | 71,537 |
| Embedded Value (Rs mn) | 5,82,500 | 7,07,769 | 8,42,420 |
| VNB margin (%) | 28.1 | 26.9 | 27.3 |
| EVPS (Rs) | 582.0 | 707.1 | 841.6 |
| EPS (Rs) | 18.9 | 23.6 | 26.9 |
| Consensus EPS (Rs) | 18.9 | 20.0 | 22.0 |
| P/EV (x) | 2.6 | 2.2 | 1.8 |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



HOLD
 TP: Rs 1,800 | ▲ 14%

HAVELLS INDIA

Consumer Durables

17 January 2025

Margin miss; recovery expected ahead

- Q3 revenue grew ~11%, driven by festive demand. However, EBITDAM contracted 110bps due to higher staff costs and other expenses
- ECD & Lloyd drove topline growth; while margin pressure in ECD and Switchgear is expected to normalise by FY26
- We cut our FY25E-FY27E EPS by 5% post Q3 results. We roll forward our valuation to Dec'26, with new TP of Rs 1,800. Maintain HOLD

Arshia Khosla

research@bobcaps.in

Decent quarter: HAVL reported 11% YoY revenue growth, reaching Rs 48.8bn, broadly in line with our 3Q estimate of Rs 49.5bn, driven by strong festive demand. Gross margin improved by 110bps to 34.4%, supported by softer commodity prices. Despite topline growth, rising other expenses (+27% YoY) and staff costs (+22% YoY) weighed on profitability, leading to a 110bps contraction in EBITDAM to 8.7%. A&P spends remained steady at Rs 1.8bn, representing 3.6% of sales – a 40bps increase compared to the previous year. APAT stood at Rs 2.8bn.

ECD and Lloyd drive topline: The ECD segment posted strong 15% YoY growth, driven by robust demand across key product categories, particularly during the festive season. Fans, SDAs, and water heaters performed well, with SDAs leading growth due to the repositioning of the appliances business. However, the EBIT margin declined by 260bps YoY to 8.6%, impacted by an unfavourable product mix, especially in SDAs. Lloyd also recorded 15% YoY revenue growth despite it being a non-seasonal quarter, with moderate AC growth and stronger performance in other products. However, Lloyd reported a Rs 360mn loss due to lower scale.

Mixed performance across segments: Switchgear sales grew 11% YoY, driven by real estate and project businesses that boosted domestic demand, while industrial switchgears remained subdued. EBIT margin contracted by 590bps YoY due to a shift in the sales mix toward projects and cost under-absorption from plant relocation. W&C segment posted a modest 7% YoY revenue growth, with strong power cable sales aided by the Tumkur plant ramp-up. However, overall segment volumes were flat, as cables grew 10-11%, but in-house wire volumes declined slightly. Meanwhile, the lighting segment saw 3% YoY growth, supported by a strong 13-15% festive volume increase, though price deflation offset some gains.

Maintain HOLD: We remain optimistic about HAVL's medium-term performance, given its strong presence in the CD space, establishment of new manufacturing units, and improving industry dynamics. We incorporate weaker-than-expected margins, and cut EPS estimates by 5% each for FY25/FY26/FY27. We roll forward to Dec'26, value HAVL at P/E of 50x (from 53x) with TP of Rs 1,800 (from Rs 1,900).

Key changes

| Target | Rating |
|--------|--------|
| ▼ | ◀ ▶ |

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Ticker/Price | HAVL IN/Rs 1,574 |
| Market cap | US\$ 11.4bn |
| Free float | 41% |
| 3M ADV | US\$ 18.6mn |
| 52wk high/low | Rs 2,106/Rs 1,280 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 60%/23%/10% |

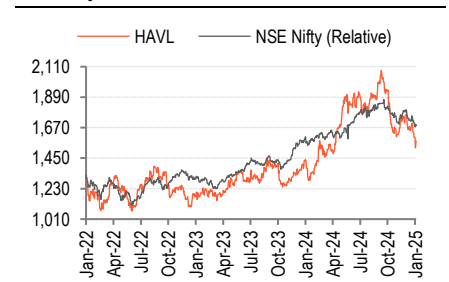
Source: NSE | Price as of 17 Jan 2025

Key financials

| Y/E 31 Mar | FY24A | FY25E | FY26E |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn) | 185,900 | 211,581 | 245,916 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn) | 18,426 | 21,017 | 26,601 |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 12,708 | 15,219 | 19,105 |
| Adj. EPS (Rs) | 20.3 | 24.3 | 30.5 |
| Consensus EPS (Rs) | 20.3 | 24.5 | 30.9 |
| Adj. ROAE (%) | 18.1 | 19.2 | 20.9 |
| Adj. P/E (x) | 77.6 | 64.8 | 51.6 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 53.5 | 46.9 | 37.1 |
| Adj. EPS growth (%) | 18.6 | 19.8 | 25.5 |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, IN OR INTO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ("US") OR IN OR INTO ANY OTHER JURISDICTION IF SUCH AN ACTION IS PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW.

Disclaimer

Name of the Research Entity: **BOB Capital Markets Limited**

Registered office Address: **1704, B Wing, Parinee Crescenzo, G Block, BKC, Bandra East, Mumbai 400051**

SEBI Research Analyst Registration No: **INH000000040 valid till 03 February 2025**

Brand Name: **BOBCAPS**

Trade Name: **www.barodaetrade.com**

CIN: **U65999MH1996GOI098009**

Logo:  **BOBCAPS**
 TRUST | INNOVATION | EXCELLENCE

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

Registration granted by SEBI and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors.

Recommendation scale: Recommendations and Absolute returns (%) over 12 months

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.

Analyst certification

Each of the analysts mentioned in this research report certify, with respect to the sections of the report for which they are responsible, that (1) all of the views expressed in this report accurately reflect his/her personal views about the subject company or companies and its or their securities, and (2) no part of his/her compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendation(s) or view(s) in this report. Analysts are not registered as research analysts by FINRA and are not associated persons of BOB Capital Markets Limited (BOBCAPS).

Important disclosures

This product is a compilation of previously published research notes. To view the complete report along with the associated Analyst certifications and Company-specific disclosures, please click on the hyperlink accompanying each excerpt.

General disclaimers

BOBCAPS is engaged in the business of Stock Broking and Investment Banking. BOBCAPS is a member of the National Stock Exchange of India Limited and BSE Limited and is also a SEBI-registered Category I Merchant Banker. BOBCAPS is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda which has its various subsidiaries engaged in the businesses of stock broking, lending, asset management, life insurance, health insurance and wealth management, among others.

BOBCAPS's activities have neither been suspended nor has it defaulted with any stock exchange authority with whom it has been registered in the last five years. BOBCAPS has not been debarred from doing business by any stock exchange or SEBI or any other authority. No disciplinary action has been taken by any regulatory authority against BOBCAPS affecting its equity research analysis activities.

BOBCAPS is also a SEBI-registered intermediary for the broking business having SEBI Single Registration Certificate No.: INZ000159332 dated 20 November 2017.

BOBCAPS prohibits its analysts, persons reporting to analysts, and members of their households from maintaining a financial interest in the securities or derivatives of any companies that the analysts cover. Additionally, BOBCAPS prohibits its analysts and persons reporting to analysts from serving as an officer, director, or advisory board member of any companies that the analysts cover.

Our salespeople, traders, and other professionals may provide oral or written market commentary or trading strategies to our clients that reflect opinions contrary to the opinions expressed herein, and our proprietary trading and investing businesses may make investment decisions that are inconsistent with the recommendations expressed herein. In reviewing these materials, you should be aware that any or all of the foregoing, among other things, may give rise to real or potential conflicts of interest. Additionally, other important information regarding our relationships with the company or companies that are the subject of this material is provided herein.

This material should not be construed as an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any security in any jurisdiction. We are not soliciting any action based on this material. It is for the general information of BOBCAPS's clients. It does not constitute a personal recommendation or take into account the particular investment objectives, financial situations, or needs of individual clients. Before acting on any advice or recommendation in this material, clients should consider whether it is suitable for their particular circumstances and, if necessary, seek professional advice. BOBCAPS research reports follow rules laid down by Securities and Exchange Board of India and individuals employed as research analysts are separate from other employees who are performing sales trading, dealing, corporate finance advisory or any other activity that may affect the independence of its research reports.

The price and value of the investments referred to in this material and the income from them may go down as well as up, and investors may realize losses on any investments. Past performance is not a guide for future performance, future returns are not guaranteed and a loss of original capital may occur. BOBCAPS does not provide tax advice to its clients, and all investors are strongly advised to consult with their tax advisers regarding any potential investment in certain transactions — including those involving futures, options, and other derivatives as well as non-investment-grade securities — that give rise to substantial risk and are not suitable for all investors. The material is based on information that we consider reliable, but we do not represent that it is accurate or complete, and it should not be relied on as such. Opinions expressed are our current opinions as of the date appearing on this material only. We endeavour to update on a reasonable basis the information discussed in this material, but regulatory, compliance, or other reasons may prevent us from doing so.

We and our affiliates, officers, directors, and employees, including persons involved in the preparation or issuance of this material, may from time to time have "long" or "short" positions in, act as principal in, and buy or sell the securities or derivatives thereof of companies mentioned herein and may from time to time add to or dispose of any such securities (or investment). We and our affiliates may assume an underwriting commitment in the securities of companies discussed in this document (or in related investments), may sell them to or buy them from customers on a principal basis, and may also perform or seek to perform investment banking or advisory services for or relating to these companies and may also be represented in the supervisory board or any other committee of these companies.

For the purpose of calculating whether BOBCAPS and its affiliates hold, beneficially own, or control, including the right to vote for directors, one per cent or more of the equity shares of the subject company, the holdings of the issuer of the research report is also included.

BOBCAPS and its non-US affiliates may, to the extent permissible under applicable laws, have acted on or used this research to the extent that it relates to non-US issuers, prior to or immediately following its publication. Foreign currency denominated securities are subject to fluctuations in exchange rates that could have an adverse effect on the value or price of or income derived from the investment. In addition, investors in securities such as ADRs, the value of which are influenced by foreign currencies, effectively assume currency risk. In addition, options involve risks and are not suitable for all investors. Please ensure that you have read and understood the Risk disclosure document before entering into any derivative transactions.

No part of this material may be (1) copied, photocopied, or duplicated in any form by any means or (2) redistributed without BOBCAPS's prior written consent.

Other disclosures

BOBCAPS does not have any financial interest in the subject company. BOBCAPS does not have actual/beneficial ownership of one per cent or more securities in the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of this report.

BOBCAPS is not engaged in any market making activities for the subject company.

BOBCAPS or its associates may have material conflict of interest at the time of publication of this research report.

BOBCAPS's associates may have financial interest in the subject company. BOBCAPS's associates may hold actual / beneficial ownership of one per cent or more securities in the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of this report.

BOBCAPS or its associates may have managed or co-managed a public offering of securities for the subject company or may have been mandated by the subject company for any other assignment in the past 12 months.

BOBCAPS may have received compensation from the subject company in the past 12 months. BOBCAPS may from time to time solicit or perform investment banking services for the subject company. BOBCAPS or its associates may have received compensation from the subject company in the past 12 months for services in respect of managing or co-managing public offerings, corporate finance, investment banking or merchant banking, brokerage services or other advisory services in a merger or specific transaction. BOBCAPS or its associates may have received compensation for products or services other than investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the subject company in the past 12 months.

Other disclaimers

BOBCAPS and MAYBANK (as defined below) make no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of any information obtained from third parties and expressly disclaim the merchantability, suitability, quality and fitness of this report. The information in this report has not been independently verified, is provided on an "as is" basis, should not be relied on by you in connection with any contract or commitment, and should not be used as a substitute for enquiries, procedures and advice which ought to be undertaken by you. This report also does not constitute an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any securities referred to herein and you should not construe this report as investment advice. All opinions and estimates contained in this report constitute BOBCAPS's judgment as of the date of this report and are subject to change without notice, and there is no obligation on BOBCAPS or MAYBANK to update this report upon issuance. This report and the information contained herein may not be reproduced, redistributed, disseminated or copied by any means without the prior consent of BOBCAPS and MAYBANK.

To the full extent permitted by law neither BOBCAPS, MAYBANK nor any of their respective affiliates, nor any other person, accepts any liability howsoever arising, whether in contract, tort, negligence, strict liability or any other basis, including without limitation, direct or indirect, special, incidental, consequential or punitive damages arising from any use of this report or the information contained herein. By accepting this report, you agree and undertake to fully indemnify and hold harmless BOBCAPS and MAYBANK from and against claims, charges, actions, proceedings, losses, liabilities, damages, expenses and demands (collectively, the "Losses") which BOBCAPS and/or MAYBANK may incur or suffer in any jurisdiction including but not limited to those Losses incurred by BOBCAPS and/or MAYBANK as a result of any proceedings or actions brought against them by any regulators and/or authorities, and which in any case are directly or indirectly occasioned by or result from or are attributable to anything done or omitted in relation to or arising from or in connection with this report.

Distribution into the United Kingdom ("UK"):

This research report will only be distributed in the United Kingdom, in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of the UK, by Maybank Securities (London) Ltd ("MSL") who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") in the United Kingdom (MSL and its affiliates are collectively referred to as "MAYBANK"). BOBCAPS is not authorized to directly distribute this research report in the UK.

This report has not been prepared by BOBCAPS in accordance with the UK's legal and regulatory requirements.

This research report is for distribution only to, and is solely directed at, selected persons on the basis that those persons: (a) are eligible counterparties and professional clients of MAYBANK as selected by MAYBANK solely at its discretion; (b) have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended from time to time (the "Order"), or (c) fall within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) (high net worth companies, unincorporated associations, etc. as mentioned in the stated Article) of the Order; (all such persons together being referred to as "relevant persons").

This research report is directed only at relevant persons and must not be acted on or relied on by any persons who are not relevant persons. Any investment or investment activity to which this material relates is available only to relevant persons and will be engaged in only with relevant persons.

The relevant person as recipient of this research report is not permitted to reproduce, change, remove, pass on, distribute or disseminate the data or make it available to third parties without the written permission of BOBCAPS or MAYBANK. Any decision taken by the relevant person(s) pursuant to the research report shall be solely at their costs and consequences and BOBCAPS and MAYBANK shall not have any liability of whatsoever nature in this regard.

No distribution into the US:

This report will not be distributed in the US and no US person may rely on this communication.

Other jurisdictions:

This report has been prepared in accordance with SEBI (Research Analysts) Regulations and not in accordance with local regulatory requirements of any other jurisdiction. In any other jurisdictions, this report is only for distribution (subject to applicable legal or regulatory restrictions) to professional, institutional or sophisticated investors as defined in the laws and regulations of such jurisdictions by Maybank Securities Pte Ltd. (Singapore) and / or by any broker-dealer affiliate or such other affiliate as determined by Malayan Banking Berhad.

If the recipient of this report is not as specified above, then it should not act upon this report and return the same to the sender.

By accepting this report, you agree to be bound by the foregoing limitations.