

**RESEARCH****CIPLA | TARGET: Rs 1,312 | -11% | SELL**

No meaningful incremental triggers until Goa plant clearance

**MARICO | TARGET: Rs 695 | +10% | HOLD**

Urban stable, rural growing

**JK CEMENT | TARGET: Rs 4,190 | -4% | HOLD**

Steady performance despite challenges; maintain HOLD

**GREENPLY INDUSTRIES | TARGET: Rs 380 | +7% | HOLD**

Weak Q2 result on MDF margin pressure

**SOMANY CERAMICS | TARGET: Rs 850 | +30% | BUY**

Guidance lowered on weak H1; positive medium-term outlook

**GREENPANEL INDUSTRIES | TARGET: Rs 365 | -3% | HOLD**

Dismal Q2; MDF margin bottoms out, but recovery to take time

**SUMMARY****CIPLA**

- Earnings in line with our estimates on all fronts. However, US sales was down and 5% lower than our estimates in rupee terms
- US sales (CC) guided for less than US\$ 220mn due to Lanreotide supply issue in Q3FY25. Market share expected to be below 20%
- gAdvair launch to be delayed further, we downgrade the stock to SELL, roll our valuations to Sep'26, with a new TP of Rs 1,312 (from Rs 1,560)

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



**MARICO**

- Versus consensus, sales miss 1%, EBITDA miss 2% on 15bps lower-than-expected margins. Parachute volumes +4% vs retail offtake +8%
- Rural recovery remains intact while urban is stable. On cost, vegetable oil and copra inflation are being passed on in a calibrated manner
- SETU continues to impact visibility on volumes and margin outlook is uncertain over the next 2-3 quarters. Retain HOLD

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

**JK CEMENT**

- Grey cement volumes at 3.8mt (excluding clinker volumes) fell by ~3% YoY (-12% QoQ) owing to weak demand impacted by seasonality
- EBITDA fell 39% YoY to ~Rs 2.8bn, EBITDA margin fell sharply YoY to 11.6% on higher other expenses and logistics cost
- We trim FY25E/FY26E/FY27E EBITDA by 14%/10%/4%, value JKCE at 14x 1Y forward EV/EBITDA and lower TP to Rs 4,190. Maintain HOLD

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

**GREENPLY INDUSTRIES**

- Topline broadly in line; but sharp miss on EBITDA due to steep sequential contraction in MDF margin (-487bps QoQ to 11.8%)
- Maintained volume guidance for plywood (+8-10%) and MDF (+50%) for FY25; MDF margin guided to improve to 16%/18% in FY25/FY26
- Maintain HOLD with revised TP of Rs 380 as bright future prospects are already baked into the current valuation

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

**SOMANY CERAMICS**

- Topline broadly in line; but EBITDA missed on margin contraction due to low absorption of fixed-cost overhead
- Guidance lowered as volume targeted to grow in mid-single digit (vs low double digit) with flat margin (+1.0%-1.5%) for FY25
- Maintain BUY with revised TP of Rs 850 on strong earnings growth prospects with improvement in ROE profile and reasonable valuations

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

## GREENPANEL INDUSTRIES

- Sharp contraction in GREENP EBITDA (-57% YoY) for eight straight quarters on supply overhang in MDF industry
- Downgrade MDF volume and margin guidance based on weak H1FY25 performance
- Worst is over, but we maintain HOLD with unchanged TP of Rs 365 in anticipation of gradual recovery in MDF sector margin

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

**SELL**  
 TP: Rs 1,312 | ▼ 11%

CIPLA

| Pharmaceuticals

| 30 October 2024

**No meaningful incremental triggers until Goa plant clearance**

- Earnings in line with our estimates on all fronts. However, US sales was down and 5% lower than our estimates in rupee terms
- US sales (CC) guided for less than US\$ 220mn due to Lanreotide supply issue in Q3FY25. Market share expected to be below 20%
- gAdvair launch to be delayed further, we downgrade the stock to SELL, roll our valuations to Sep'26, with a new TP of Rs 1,312 (from Rs 1,560)

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**Earnings in line with estimates:** CIPLA reported an in-line set of earnings, with reported sales/EBITDA 1.6%/0.6% above our estimates and PAT -0.2% below our estimates. EBITDA margin was 30bps lower than our estimate of 26.7%.

**North America region sales to slow down:** CIPLA's US sales in Q2 was 5% lower than our estimate of Rs 19.8bn and in constant currency (CC) terms at US\$ 236mn. Sales was impacted by (1) temporary supply issues in Lanreotide, (2) 10% YoY price erosion pressure in the base portfolio (30% of portfolio) and (3) flat gRevlimid sales on a sequential basis. Lanreotide's supply issues are expected to resume from Q4FY25, thus lowering Q3FY25 sales in CC terms to US\$ 220mn. Subsequently, we have lowered US sales by 4% to Rs 77.9bn for FY25e. CIPLA's key product launch gAdvair is expected to be delayed further as the Goa plant has received six observations from the USFDA inspection recently.

**Domestic growth to be lower than industry average:** During Q2FY25, domestic sales grew by 5% below Indian Pharma Market (IPM) growth due to lower traction in the Anti-Infective segment, affecting both branded generic prescription and trade generics. We believe that while CIPLA would continue to grow at IPM levels of 8-9%, it would underperform its industry peers – growing at 11-12%.

**H2FY25 margins to be lower than H1FY25:** CIPLA reported 26.2% EBITDA margin in H1FY25, but management maintained its earlier FY25 guidance of 24.5-25.5%. We believe CIPLA will report lower EBITDA margin in H2FY25 as (1) domestic sales is expected to grow in the single digit, (2) Lanreotide sales is likely to be affected by supply issues in the North America region, and (3) growth in the South Africa region is unlikely to drive margins as they are lower than company-level margins.

**Downgrade to SELL; TP cut to Rs 1,312:** We downgrade to SELL due to (1) lower US sales, (2) tender base growth in the South Africa region and (3) no clarity on Goa plant clearance affecting the gAdvair launch. Hence, we ascribe a lower P/E of 20x, and roll forward our valuations to Sep'26, with new TP of Rs 1,312 (from Rs 1,560).

**Key changes**

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

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Ticker/Price     | CIPLA IN/Rs 1,478 |
| Market cap       | US\$ 14.2bn       |
| Free float       | 65%               |
| 3M ADV           | US\$ 30.5mn       |
| 52wk high/low    | Rs 1,702/Rs 1,165 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 33%/26%/24%       |

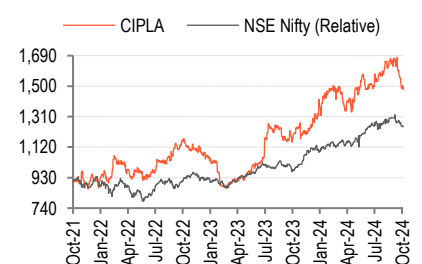
Source: NSE | Price as of 29 Oct 2024

**Key financials**

| Y/E 31 Mar              | FY24A   | FY25E   | FY26E   |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn)   | 257,741 | 267,084 | 287,281 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn)          | 62,911  | 66,611  | 73,185  |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 43,164  | 44,931  | 49,570  |
| Adj. EPS (Rs)           | 53.6    | 55.8    | 61.5    |
| Consensus EPS (Rs)      | 53.6    | 57.4    | 64.1    |
| Adj. ROAE (%)           | 17.5    | 15.8    | 15.2    |
| Adj. P/E (x)            | 27.6    | 26.5    | 24.0    |
| EV/EBITDA (x)           | 18.4    | 17.2    | 15.3    |
| Adj. EPS growth (%)     | 44.6    | 4.1     | 10.3    |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

**Stock performance**



Source: NSE



**HOLD**  
 TP: Rs 695 | ▲ 10%

**MARICO**

Consumer Staples

30 October 2024

**Urban stable, rural growing**

- Versus consensus, sales miss 1%, EBITDA miss 2% on 15bps lower-than-expected margins. Parachute volumes +4% vs retail offtake +8%
- Rural recovery remains intact while urban is stable. On cost, vegetable oil and copra inflation are being passed on in a calibrated manner
- SETU continues to impact visibility on volumes and margin outlook is uncertain over the next 2-3 quarters. Retain HOLD

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**Broadly in-line result:** MRCO reported 5% underlying EBITDA growth despite 8% sales growth as EBITDA margin contracted 50bps to 19.6%. Compared to Bloomberg consensus, sales were 1% below both our and consensus estimates, while EBITDA 2% below consensus and in line with our estimate.

**Pricing versus inflation:** MRCO has taken 15% pricing in vegetable oils and is comfortable on elasticity. The demand sensitive band starts from Rs 200/pk while the company is currently at Rs 185/pk. Further pricing is required and will be taken in a calibrated manner. The company is guiding for a 40-50bps hit to FY25 margins. We think the margin percentage impact may be lower due to the combination of elasticity being in control over time, and inflation being a nationwide phenomenon.

**SETU impact on volumes remains unpredictable but December quarter may provide some insights:** In 2QFY25, Parachute volumes grew +4% vs measured retail offtake at +8%. MRCO indicated continued stock adjustments based on the pace of growth in direct and its impact on the sales in indirect channel. Shipments will align with retail offtake in two quarters. The December quarter should provide more clarity between stock adjustments and the extent of incremental changes in retail demand. Meanwhile, four more states were added to Project SETU, bringing the total to ten. The project is progressing to plan in terms of outlets expansion.

**Earnings outlook:** Our sales forecast is unchanged for FY25 – initial volume response may be weak until all players are onboard with pricing. For FY26, our sales forecasts are slightly higher with EBITDA up in line as pricing comes through. FY27 is largely unchanged.

**Valuation and our view:** FMCG is rational with inflation passed through in a phased manner. Margin hit near term but stabilisation over the next two quarters. Even then, Project SETU-driven unpredictability on sales growth is uncharacteristic of an FMCG company. Bangladesh also needs more evidence of smooth repatriation. We continue to use the P/E rel method, valuing MRCO in line with its historical average. At 49x P/E 12M to Sep'26, we derive our Rs 695 TP. HOLD.

**Key changes**

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

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Ticker/Price     | MRCO IN/Rs 629 |
| Market cap       | US\$ 9.7bn     |
| Free float       | 40%            |
| 3M ADV           | US\$ 19.2mn    |
| 52wk high/low    | Rs 720/Rs 486  |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 59%/25%/16%    |

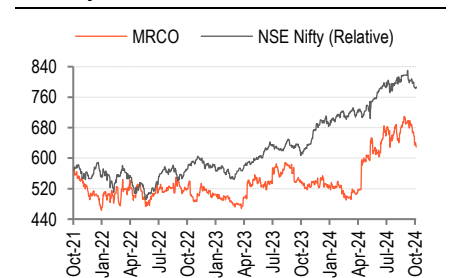
Source: NSE | Price as of 29 Oct 2024

**Key financials**

| Y/E 31 Mar              | FY24A  | FY25E   | FY26E   |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn)   | 96,530 | 107,106 | 118,868 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn)          | 20,260 | 22,101  | 24,655  |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 14,810 | 16,072  | 17,730  |
| Adj. EPS (Rs)           | 11.5   | 12.5    | 13.7    |
| Consensus EPS (Rs)      | 11.5   | 12.8    | 14.4    |
| Adj. ROAE (%)           | 36.5   | 36.6    | 36.5    |
| Adj. P/E (x)            | 54.8   | 50.5    | 45.8    |
| EV/EBITDA (x)           | 40.1   | 36.7    | 32.9    |
| Adj. EPS growth (%)     | 13.7   | 8.5     | 10.3    |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

**Stock performance**



Source: NSE



**HOLD**  
 TP: Rs 4,190 | ▼ 4%

**JK CEMENT**

Cement

30 October 2024

**Steady performance despite challenges; maintain HOLD**

- Grey cement volumes at 3.8mt (excluding clinker volumes) fell by ~3% YoY (-12% QoQ) owing to weak demand impacted by seasonality
- EBITDA fell 39% YoY to ~Rs 2.8bn, EBITDA margin fell sharply YoY to 11.6% on higher other expenses and logistics cost
- We trim FY25E/FY26E/FY27E EBITDA by 14%/10%/4%, value JKCE at 14x 1Y forward EV/EBITDA and lower TP to Rs 4,190. Maintain HOLD

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**Topline performance impacted by tepid volume; realisation stays weak:** JKCE reported 7%/10% YoY/QoQ fall in revenues to ~Rs 23.9bn in Q2FY25 largely dragged by tepid grey cement volume growth and weak realisations. Grey cement volumes at 3.8mt (excluding clinker volumes) fell by ~3% YoY (-12% QoQ) due to listless demand in JKCE's key region of operations in North and Central India. Grey cement realisation too fell by ~6% YoY to Rs 4,706/t indicating weak demand.

**Cost inflation impacts margins YoY:** The overall cost inflated 3%/10% YoY/QoQ to Rs 5,044/t, attributed to the higher logistic cost which jumped by 10%/2% YoY/QoQ to Rs 1,278/t due to higher lead distance and lower rail mix. Other expenditure leaped by 10%/24% YoY/QoQ to Rs 4.8bn due to maintenance shut down and expenses incurred on other value add products. Energy cost savings only partially offset overall inflation. The blended proportion was ~70% in Q2FY25.

**Cost inflation and realisation weakness impact EBITDA/margins:** EBITDA fell 39%/43% YoY/QoQ to ~Rs 2.7bn and EBITDA margin by 600bps YoY due to overall cost inflation YoY combined with weak realisations. The aggregate EBITDA/t fell sharply to Rs 649 a fall of ~36% YoY/QoQ.

**Expansion plans on track:** Prayagraj (GU) has already been commissioned and contributed 83k mnt of cement in the first month of its operations. JKCE's previously-announced 3.3mnt grey clinker line-II at Panna and 3mnt grinding unit in Bihar and 1mnt each in Hamirpur, Prayagraj and Panna (3mnt) are on track to be completed by Q3/Q4FY26.

**Retain valuations and maintain HOLD:** We trim our FY25/FY26/FY27 EBITDA estimates by 15%/10%/4% due to weakness in the demand and supply hangover. Effectively, the EBITDA/PAT CAGR is now at 21%/20% over FY24-27E. JKCE's focus remains on long-term growth with timely capex and is healthy, while improving earnings quality and reducing balance sheet stress are key. We continue to value JKCE at 14x 1Y forward EV/EBITDA to arrive at a lower TP of Rs 4,190 (from Rs 4,431) and maintain HOLD.

**Key changes**

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

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Ticker/Price     | JKCE IN/Rs 4,350  |
| Market cap       | US\$ 4.0bn        |
| Free float       | 54%               |
| 3M ADV           | US\$ 6.9mn        |
| 52wk high/low    | Rs 4,896/Rs 3,065 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 46%/16%/22%       |

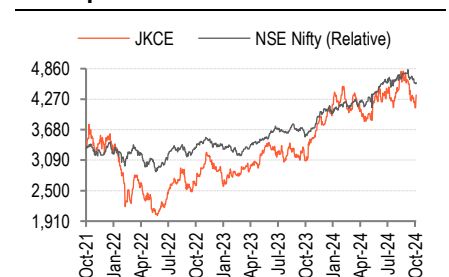
Source: NSE | Price as of 29 Oct 2024

**Key financials**

| Y/E 31 Mar              | FY24A    | FY25E    | FY26E    |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn)   | 1,05,632 | 1,17,825 | 1,37,490 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn)          | 16,502   | 18,841   | 23,755   |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 8,361    | 8,960    | 11,776   |
| Adj. EPS (Rs)           | 108.2    | 116.0    | 152.4    |
| Consensus EPS (Rs)      | 108.2    | 125.1    | 158.0    |
| Adj. ROAE (%)           | 17.2     | 15.9     | 18.0     |
| Adj. P/E (x)            | 40.2     | 37.5     | 28.5     |
| EV/EBITDA (x)           | 23.1     | 20.5     | 12.2     |
| Adj. EPS growth (%)     | 48.6     | 7.2      | 31.4     |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

**Stock performance**



Source: NSE



**HOLD**  
 TP: Rs 380 | ▲ 7%

**GREENPLY INDUSTRIES** | Building Materials

29 October 2024

**Weak Q2 result on MDF margin pressure**

- Topline broadly in line; but sharp miss on EBITDA due to steep sequential contraction in MDF margin (-487bps QoQ to 11.8%)
- Maintained volume guidance for plywood (+8-10%) and MDF (+50%) for FY25; MDF margin guided to improve to 16%/18% in FY25/FY26
- Maintain HOLD with revised TP of Rs 380 as bright future prospects are already baked into the current valuation

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**Weak quarter:** MTLM missed our estimate for Q2FY25 (revenue/EBITDA/APAT: -2%/-15%/-55%) mainly due to sharp sequential contraction in MDF segment margin (-487bps QoQ to 11.8%). Overall, MTLM's revenue/EBITDA grew by 13%/19% YoY in Q2FY25 over a low base, but APAT was down 23% YoY in Q2FY25 due to the negative contribution from its new furniture fittings JV business. On a 5Y CAGR basis, MTLM EBITDA grew at a nominal 5% CAGR in Q2FY25.

**Key highlights:** Plywood EBITDA grew by 17.9% YoY in Q2FY25 driven by higher volumes (+5.8% YoY) and improved margin (+153bps YoY to 8.3% on a low base). MDF EBITDA grew by 24.9% YoY in Q2FY25 as higher volumes (+30.7%) more than offset the impact of lower margin (-154bps YoY to 11.8%).

**Guidance:** MTLM maintained its volume growth guidance for plywood (at 8-10%) and MDF (at 50%) YoY for FY25. The company expects plywood margin to improve to 10% range over the medium term and MDF margin to improve to 16%/18% in FY25/FY26. The furniture fittings division (Phase I) is expected to become fully operational from Nov'24 and Phase II is expected to be completed by Dec'25. The furniture fittings division revenue is expected to be Rs 4bn-5bn in the next three years in the best-case scenario.

**Maintain HOLD; TP cut by 5% to Rs 380:** We remain positive on MTLM's long-term prospects as we see strong earnings growth prospect (EPS to grow at a healthy 44% CAGR over FY24-FY27E) along with sharp improvement in ROE profile (from 10.7% in FY24 to 18.9% in FY27E). However, we maintain HOLD as we believe its bright prospects are baked well into current valuations (trades at 29.0x on 1Y forward P/E vs. 5Y average of 23.0x). We have cut our TP to Rs 380 (Rs 400 earlier) due to the downward revision of our EPS estimates (-6.1%/-9.1%/-5.5% for FY25E/FY26E/FY27E) based on a weak Q2FY25 result. Our target P/E remains unchanged at 25x on Sep'26 (Jun'26 earlier).

**Key changes**

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

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Ticker/Price     | MTLM IN/Rs 355 |
| Market cap       | US\$ 522.9mn   |
| Free float       | 48%            |
| 3M ADV           | US\$ 2.3mn     |
| 52wk high/low    | Rs 412/Rs 157  |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 52%/6%/31%     |

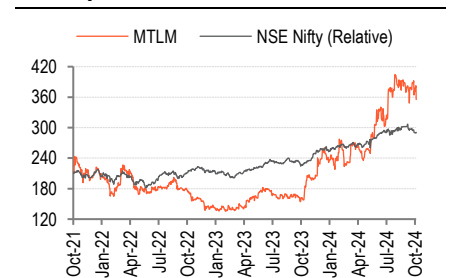
Source: NSE | Price as of 29 Oct 2024

**Key financials**

| Y/E 31 Mar              | FY24A  | FY25E  | FY26E  |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn)   | 21,799 | 25,321 | 29,777 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn)          | 1,875  | 2,519  | 3,323  |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 757    | 1,199  | 1,744  |
| Adj. EPS (Rs)           | 6.1    | 9.7    | 14.1   |
| Consensus EPS (Rs)      | 6.1    | 10.9   | 15.1   |
| Adj. ROAE (%)           | 11.2   | 15.6   | 19.2   |
| Adj. P/E (x)            | 58.0   | 36.6   | 25.2   |
| EV/EBITDA (x)           | 21.3   | 15.2   | 11.8   |
| Adj. EPS growth (%)     | (26.7) | 58.4   | 45.4   |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

**Stock performance**



Source: NSE



**BUY**  
 TP: Rs 850 | ▲ 30%

**SOMANY CERAMICS**

Building Materials

29 October 2024

**Guidance lowered on weak H1; positive medium-term outlook**

- Topline broadly in line; but EBITDA missed on margin contraction due to low absorption of fixed-cost overhead
- Guidance lowered as volume targeted to grow in mid-single digit (vs low double digit) with flat margin (+1.0%-1.5%) for FY25
- Maintain BUY with revised TP of Rs 850 on strong earnings growth prospects with improvement in ROE profile and reasonable valuations

**Utkarsh Nopany**

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**Mixed Q2:** SOMC’s topline was broadly in line with our estimate (+1.7% YoY to Rs 6.7bn vs Rs 6.5bn estimated), but it missed our EBITDA estimate by 7.6% due to weak margin (-138bps YoY to 8.4% vs 9.3% estimated). Overall, SOMC’s EBITDA/APAT fell by 12.7%/41.5% YoY in Q2FY25.

**Key highlights:** SOMC tiles volume grew by 2.6% YoY (5Y CAGR: +7.2%) in Q2FY25. Tiles realisation was relatively flat (-0.2% QoQ) in a difficult market environment due to improved product mix (GVT share up 100bps QoQ to 38%). EBITDA margin was down 138bps YoY to 8.4% in Q2FY25 mainly due to low absorption of fixed-cost overhead (operating rate down from 89% in Q2FY24 to 77% in Q2FY25). Net debt was relatively stable on QoQ basis at Rs 2.67bn in Sep’24.

**Guidance downgrade:** SOMC has lowered its volume growth guidance to +5.0-6.5% YoY (vs low double-digit rate) with flat EBITDA margin (vs +1.0-1.5% YoY) for FY25. Management expects the medium-term outlook to remain positive in anticipation of good recovery in tiles demand from the real estate sector and margin profile to improve with the ramp up of the newly-commissioned Max plant. The Max plant continued to operate at a sub-optimal rate of 36% in Q2FY25, but the company expects the plant to operate at a better rate in H2FY25 (which would aid in improving its margin profile in the near future). The company targets to increase the share of project business from 20% in FY24 to 25% in FY25.

**Maintain BUY; TP cut by 6% to Rs 850:** We maintain our BUY rating on the stock as we see (a) strong earnings growth prospects (EPS to log 19% CAGR over FY24-FY27E) along with improvement in ROE profile (from 11.5% in FY24 to 15.2% in FY27E); and (b) reasonable valuation (trades at 22.9x on 1Y forward P/E vs. 5Y average of 25.2x). We have cut our TP to Rs 850 (Rs 900 earlier) due to the downward revision of our EPS estimates (-15.4%/-2.5%/-1.6% for FY25E/FY26E/FY27E) based on the weak Q2FY25 result. Our target P/E remains unchanged at 25x on Sep’26 estimate (Jun’26 earlier).

**Key changes**

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

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|------------------|----------------|
| Ticker/Price     | SOMC IN/Rs 653 |
| Market cap       | US\$ 318.7mn   |
| Free float       | 45%            |
| 3M ADV           | US\$ 0.3mn     |
| 52wk high/low    | Rs 873/Rs 561  |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 55%/2%/24%     |

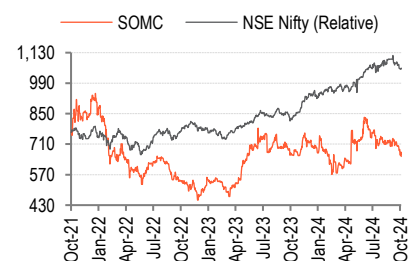
Source: NSE | Price as of 29 Oct 2024

**Key financials**

| Y/E 31 Mar              | FY24A  | FY25E  | FY26E  |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn)   | 25,914 | 26,404 | 29,529 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn)          | 2,544  | 2,458  | 3,109  |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 991    | 876    | 1,382  |
| Adj. EPS (Rs)           | 24.2   | 21.4   | 33.7   |
| Consensus EPS (Rs)      | 24.2   | 29.7   | 39.8   |
| Adj. ROAE (%)           | 11.5   | 10.1   | 14.3   |
| Adj. P/E (x)            | 27.0   | 30.6   | 19.4   |
| EV/EBITDA (x)           | 9.4    | 9.8    | 7.9    |
| Adj. EPS growth (%)     | 38.1   | (11.6) | 57.7   |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

**Stock performance**



Source: NSE





**HOLD**  
 TP: Rs 365 | ▼ 3%

**GREENPANEL INDUSTRIES**

Building Materials

29 October 2024

**Dismal Q2; MDF margin bottoms out, but recovery to take time**

- Sharp contraction in GREENP EBITDA (-57% YoY) for eight straight quarters on supply overhang in MDF industry
- Downgrade MDF volume and margin guidance based on weak H1FY25 performance
- Worst is over, but we maintain HOLD with unchanged TP of Rs 365 in anticipation of gradual recovery in MDF sector margin

**Utkarsh Nopany**  
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**Dismal Q2FY25:** GREENP missed our estimates for Q2FY25 (Revenue/EBITDA/APAT: -9%/-32%/-56%) mainly due to lower MDF sales volume (-18% YoY vs -3% estimated) as it preferred to maintain pricing discipline by sacrificing market share. Overall, GREENP Revenue/EBITDA/APAT fell by 16%/57%/76% YoY in Q2FY25.

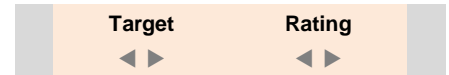
**Key highlights:** GREENP reported sharp YoY contraction in operating profit for the eighth consecutive quarter due to supply overhang in the MDF industry. MDF segment EBITDA de-grew by 57% YoY in Q2FY25 driven by lower volumes (-17.9% YoY) as well as margin contraction (-129bps QoQ to 9.9%). MDF margin fell below the level seen in the previous bear cycle (14.5% in FY19). The plywood segment reported a sharp volume decline for the ninth consecutive quarter (-10.4% YoY) due to internal restructuring and exit from decorative veneer business.

**Guidance:** The company targets its domestic MDF volume to grow at 15-18% YoY in H2FY25 and 35% YoY in FY26. Exports volume is expected to be in the range of 6K-7K CBM per month in H2FY25. MDF EBITDA margin is expected to improve by 150-200bps in H2FY25 over Q2FY25 and further improvement of 150-200bps in FY26. The company plans to add 231,000 CBM of MDF capacity at its existing Andhra Pradesh plant at a cost of Rs 6bn by Q3FY25.

**MDF industry dynamics:** Management believes the sharp increase in domestic MDF capacity (from 2.5mn CBM in FY23 to 4.1mn CBM in FY25E vs domestic demand of 2.6mn-2.7mn CBM in FY24) is likely to get absorbed over the next three years as domestic demand is anticipated to grow at 14-16% rate per annum.

**Maintain HOLD with unchanged TP of Rs 365:** While we believe the worst is over for the Indian MDF industry, we maintain our HOLD rating on the GREENP stock in anticipation of gradual recovery in MDF sector margin. We cut our EPS estimates (-22.6%/-13.5%/-9.4% for FY25E/FY26E/FY27E), but we have kept our TP unchanged at Rs 365 due to roll forward of our valuation from Jun'26 to Sep'26. At CMP, the stock trades at 34.8x on 1Y forward P/E vs. the 5Y average of 24.2x. Our target P/E remains unchanged at 20x.

**Key changes**



|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Ticker/Price     | GREENP IN/Rs 375 |
| Market cap       | US\$ 546.5mn     |
| Free float       | 47%              |
| 3M ADV           | US\$ 1.6mn       |
| 52wk high/low    | Rs 450/Rs 268    |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 53%/3%/28%       |

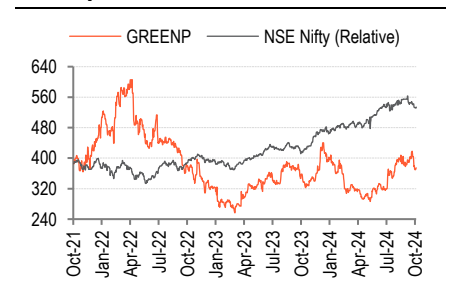
Source: NSE | Price as of 29 Oct 2024

**Key financials**

| Y/E 31 Mar              | FY24A  | FY25E  | FY26E  |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn)   | 15,673 | 16,123 | 20,772 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn)          | 2,465  | 1,710  | 3,120  |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 1,428  | 834    | 1,664  |
| Adj. EPS (Rs)           | 11.6   | 6.8    | 13.6   |
| Consensus EPS (Rs)      | 11.6   | 9.4    | 17.1   |
| Adj. ROAE (%)           | 11.4   | 6.2    | 11.5   |
| Adj. P/E (x)            | 32.2   | 55.0   | 27.6   |
| EV/EBITDA (x)           | 18.9   | 27.3   | 14.4   |
| Adj. EPS growth (%)     | (43.4) | (41.6) | 99.4   |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

**Stock performance**



Source: NSE



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**Note:** Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

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