Hindustan Unilever

Accumulate

DART DOLAT ANALYSIS & RESEARCH THEMES IN-DEPTH•PRECISE•ACTIONABLE

Consumer Staples | Q4FY23 Result Update

Expect margin improvement going ahead; Maintain Accumulate

- HUL's revenue and EBITDA came below but APAT was in line with estimate.
 Core business registered 11% sales growth in Q4FY23 led by ~6% price increase and volume growth of 4%.
- F&R business reported lower growth as (1) health drinks portfolio was impacted due to high inflation (2) Tea remained impacted due to down trading majorly led by inflation and (3) ice creams were impacted due unfavorable variation in season.
- As most of the commodities have softened compared to last year, GM contraction has eased to 80bps (vs 460bps in Q3FY23). Going ahead, we believe that with more softening in commodity prices the EBITDA margin gain story would continue for HUL.
- We have marginally tweaked our FY24/25E EPS estimates to factor in Q4 performance. Going ahead, we believe that the company's margins would improve with easing of inflation. Valuing the stock at 55x FY25E EPS to arrive at a TP of Rs 2,893. Though we remain optimistic on rural recovery and GM improvement, CMP does not support BUY rating. Buy on dips. Accumulate.

Revenue and EBITDA below estimate; APAT in line

Net Sales stood at Rs 148.9bn was up 10.6% YoY in Q4FY23 with 4% volume growth. EBITDA increased 7.0% YoY to Rs 34.7bn — was below our estimate. EBITDA margin contracted by 80bps to 23.3% as 80/60/30bps increase in RM/Employee cost/ other expense resp. was partially offset by 90bps decline in A&P expenses. We believe that the GM would improve here on. RPAT increased 9.7% YoY to Rs25.5bn. excluding EI, APAT grew 8.9% YoY to Rs 24.7bn - came in-line.

HC and BPC performance was in line; F&R disappointed

+75% of the portfolio gained market share in volume and value terms in Q4FY23. At the segmental level – (1) Home care reported 18.7% sales growth with 100bps EBITM contraction to 18.7% (2) Personal care reported 10.1% revenue increase; EBITM contracted by 20bps to 26.1% and (3) Food and Refreshment posted 2.6% YoY sales growth with EBITM contraction of 140bps to 17.9%. The Home care segment was benefited from double digit growth across fabric wash and household care segment, while Personal care segment growth was benefited from favorable base, market development and innovations.

Q4FY23 Result (Rs Mn)

| Particulars | Q4FY23 | Q4FY22 | YoY (%) | Q3FY23 | QoQ (%) |
|-------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Revenue | 1,48,930 | 1,34,620 | 10.6 | 1,52,280 | (2.2) |
| Total Expense | 1,14,220 | 1,02,170 | 11.8 | 1,16,910 | (2.3) |
| EBITDA | 34,710 | 32,450 | 7.0 | 35,370 | (1.9) |
| Depreciation | 2,620 | 2,610 | 0.4 | 2,600 | 0.8 |
| EBIT | 32,090 | 29,840 | 7.5 | 32,770 | (2.1) |
| Other Income | 1,600 | 1,220 | 31.1 | 2,280 | (29.8) |
| Interest | 240 | 360 | (33.3) | 260 | (7.7) |
| EBT | 34,250 | 31,280 | 9.5 | 33,770 | 1.4 |
| Tax | 8,730 | 8,010 | 9.0 | 8,720 | 0.1 |
| RPAT | 25,520 | 23,270 | 9.7 | 25,050 | 1.9 |
| APAT | 24,720 | 22,690 | 8.9 | 26,070 | (5.2) |
| | | | (bps) | | (bps) |
| Gross Margin (%) | 48.7 | 49.5 | (84) | 47.5 | 122 |
| EBITDA Margin (%) | 23.3 | 24.1 | (80) | 23.2 | 8 |
| NPM (%) | 17.1 | 17.3 | (15) | 16.5 | 69 |
| Tax Rate (%) | 25.5 | 25.6 | (12) | 25.8 | (33) |
| EBIT Margin (%) | 21.5 | 22.2 | (62) | 21.5 | 3 |

| CMP | Rs 2,46 | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------|--------|--|--|
| Target / Upside | Rs 2,893 / 17 | | | | |
| NIFTY | | 1 | 7,360 | | |
| Scrip Details | | | | | |
| Equity / FV | Rs 2,350mn / Rs | | | | |
| Market Cap | | Rs 5, | 802bn | | |
| | | USD 7 | '0.9bn | | |
| 52-week High/Low | Rs 2,742/ 2,100 | | | | |
| Avg. Volume (no) | 14,34,870 | | | | |
| Bloom Code | HUVR IN | | | | |
| Price Performance | 1M | 3M | 12M | | |
| Absolute (%) | (1) | (5) | 15 | | |
| Rel to NIFTY (%) | (6) | (8) | 8 | | |
| | | | | | |

Shareholding Pattern

| | Sep'22 | Dec'22 | Mar'23 |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Promoters | 61.9 | 61.9 | 61.9 |
| MF/Banks/FIs | 12.2 | 11.6 | 11.6 |
| FIIs | 13.3 | 14.3 | 14.4 |
| Public / Others | 12.6 | 12.2 | 12.2 |
| | | | |

Valuation (x)

| | FY23A | FY24E | FY25E |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| P/E | 57.9 | 51.7 | 46.9 |
| EV/EBITDA | 42.3 | 36.9 | 33.5 |
| ROE (%) | 20.1 | 22.1 | 23.7 |
| RoACE (%) | 17.8 | 19.5 | 20.9 |

Estimates (Rs bn)

| | FY23A | FY24E | FY25E |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Revenue | 591.4 | 651.4 | 708.4 |
| EBITDA | 136.3 | 155.2 | 170.6 |
| PAT | 100.2 | 112.2 | 123.6 |
| EPS (Rs.) | 42.7 | 47.8 | 52.6 |

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Exhibit 1: Segmental Performance

| Particulars (Rs.mn) | Q4FY23 | Q4FY22 | YoY (%) | Q3FY23 | QoQ (%) | Remarks | | | |
|------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|---|------|-------|--|
| Home Care | | | | | | Fabric Wash, Household Care & Water | | | |
| Revenue | 56,380 | 47,500 | 18.7 | 55,180 | 2.2 | Fabric wash posted strong double-digit growth | | | |
| EBIT | 10,560 | 9,390 | 12.5 | 10,610 | (0.5) | led by strong performance in premium portfolio; | | | |
| | | | | | | gained value and volume market share. | | | |
| EBIT Margin (%) | 18.7 | 19.8 | (100bps) | 19.2 | (50bps) | Strong double-digit growth in household care led by outperformance in Dishwash. | | | |
| Beauty & Personal Care | | | | | | Personal Wash, Oral Care, Skin Care, Hair Care, | | | |
| Revenue | 51,880 | 47,120 | 10.1 | 57,180 | (9.3) | Deodorant & Colour Cosmetics | | | |
| EBIT | 13,530 | 12,360 | 9.5 | 14,370 | (5.8) | Skin cleansing posted double-digit growth led by | | | |
| | | | | | | LUX; soaps portfolio has resorted to price cuts in MQ'23. | | | |
| FRIT Maurin (0/) | 26.1 | 26.2 | (20h n s) | 25.4 | 006.5 | Haircare posted volume led mid-single digit growth; continued strengthening market leadership. | | | |
| EBIT Margin (%) | 26.1 | 26.2 | (20bps) | (20bps) | (20bps) | 25.1 | 25.1 | 90bps | Double-digit growth in skin care and color cosmetics led by strong performance in premium portfolio. |
| | | | | | | Oral care grew in high-single digit; Close up continues to grow. | | | |
| Food & Refreshments | | | | | | Tea portfolio witnessed downtrading as a result | | | |
| Revenue | 37,940 | 36,980 | 2.6 | 37,000 | 2.5 | of higher inflation in premium teas. Coffee | | | |
| EBIT | 6,790 | 7,130 | (4.8) | 6,610 | 2.7 | posted double-digit growth. | | | |
| EBIT Margin (%) | 17.9 | 19.3 | (140bps) | 17.9 | 0bps | HFD grew in mid- single digit. Foods portfolio grew in mid- single digit, led by strong performance in Ketchup and UFS business. | | | |
| | | | | | | Ice cream exhibited mid-single digit growth on a high base. Consumption was impacted due to unseasonal rains. | | | |
| Others | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenue | 2,730 | 3,020.0 | (9.6) | 2,920 | (6.5) | | | | |
| EBIT | 1,210.0 | 960.0 | 26.0 | 1,180.0 | 2.5 | | | | |
| EBIT Margin (%) | 44.3 | 31.8 | 1,250bps | 40.4 | 390bps | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenue | 1,48,930 | 1,34,620 | 10.6 | 1,52,280 | (2.2) | | | | |
| EBIT | 32,090 | 29,840 | 7.5 | 32,770 | (2.1) | | | | |
| EBIT Margin (%) | 21.5 | 22.2 | (60bps) | 21.5 | 0bps | | | | |

Source: DART, Company

Exhibit 2: Actual V/s DART estimate

| Particulars (Rs mn) | Actual | Estimates | Variance (%) | Comments |
|---------------------|----------|-----------|--------------|---|
| Revenue | 1,48,930 | 1,55,433 | (4.2) | F&R business performance was below estimate. |
| EBITDA | 34,710 | 39,301 | (11.7) | Due to lower revenues the EBITDA was lower. |
| EBITDA margin % | 23.3 | 25.3 | (200bps) | |
| APAT | 24,720 | 29,313 | (15.7) | Higher than estimated other income helped APAT to fall in line. |

Source: Company, DART

Exhibit 3: Change in estimates

| Double Jone (Do man) | | FY24E | | | FY25E | |
|----------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
| Particulars (Rs mn) | New | Old | Chg (%) | New | Old | Chg (%) |
| Revenue | 6,51,357 | 6,56,285 | (0.8) | 7,08,355 | 7,15,581 | (1.0) |
| EBIDTA | 1,55,169 | 1,56,542 | (0.9) | 1,70,603 | 1,72,672 | (1.2) |
| EBIDTA margin (%) | 23.8 | 23.9 | 0bps | 24.1 | 24.1 | 0bps |
| PAT | 1,12,220 | 1,12,076 | 0.1 | 1,23,629 | 1,23,844 | (0.2) |
| EPS (Rs) | 47.8 | 47.7 | 0.1 | 52.6 | 52.7 | (0.2) |

Source: Company DART

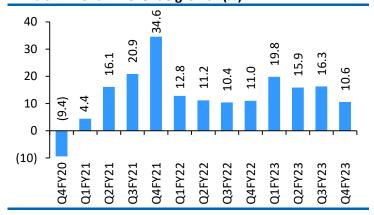


Earning call KTA's

- During the quarter, HUL posted 4% volume growth vs a volume decline in FMCG industry. We believe, the slowdown in FMCG industry is bottoming out which is reflected in volume improvement (mid-single digit in Q3FY23 improved to flat in Q4FY23). Further, the rural markets has witnessed some signs of improvement in value growth on sequential basis.
- During FY23, despite inflation, home care segment grew 28% led by increased contribution from premium portfolio. Further, in FY23, Surf excel crossed \$1bn turnover. The BP&C revenue grew by 12% and volume grew in low single digits. The F&R segment witnessed 5% revenue growth and volume grew in low single digit.
- Over last 2 years, HUL witnessed a price growth of ~18%, however inflation was higher compared to price growth. Consequently, GM contracted over 600bps vs pre-inflationary period. HUL mitigated inflation through dynamic financial management, and maintained EBITDA margins in a healthy range. EBITDA during FY23 was 23.0%, a decline of 140 bps YoY.
- During Q4FY23, key commodities witnessed softening in RM prices. HUL has taken price
 cut in soap portfolio as a result of softening in palm oil prices. Going ahead, further
 softening in commodity price would support GM improvement.
- A&P spends in Q4FY23 were at 9%, higher sequentially. HUL is confident to further stepup its A&P spends to pre-covid level (12%) and continue to invest competitively in brand building and market development. We believe that benefit of GM expansion would be passed on through A&P expenses. Consequently, HUL will take slightly longer time to achieve peak margins going ahead.
- During the quarter, HUL witnessed downtrading in tea portfolio due to high inflation in premium tea compared to loose tea. In the long term shift of customers from loose tea to premium tea would further strengthen market leadership in tea portfolio.
- During Q4, the company launched various new products namely, Novology in masstige beauty segment, Dove Beautiful curls, Rice water and angelica seed oil shampoo and conditioner, and exciting new flavors under ice cream such as Cornetto salted caramel brownie hazelnut chocolate ice-cream and others. We believe, focus on new launches and innovation in products would drive growth, going ahead.
- Mr. Rohit Jawa would succeed Mr. Sanjiv Mehta as MD and CEO (for a term of 5 years) of the company effective 27th June, 2023. Mr. Rohit Jawa has ~33 years of industry experience with a proven track record of sustained business results across - India, South East Asia, and North Asia.
- During the quarter, unseasonal rains impacted ice cream consumption which led to midsingle digit growth in ice cream portfolio. Nevertheless, ice cream portfolio grew by 37% during FY23. We believe, launch of exiting new flavors in the peak summer season would support growth in the category.
- Over the medium and long term, HUL would remain focused on double digit EPS growth, build back GM and setting up A&P investments, the same will be driven by topline growth and modest margin improvement.
- HUL's Shikhar app is becoming highest adopted e-B2B app with a 1.2mn retail outlets.
 HUL has captured over 30% of sales digitally through Shikhar app and 14 D2C websites.
- The BOD have proposed a final dividend of Rs 22 per share, subject to approval of shareholders. Together with interim dividend of Rs 17 per share, the total dividend for FY23 amounts to Rs 39 per share.

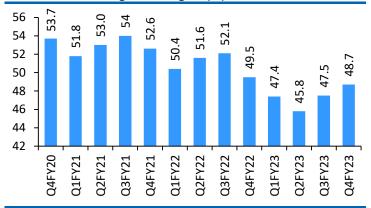


Exhibit 4: Trend in revenue growth (%)



Source: Company, DART

Exhibit 6: Trend in gross margins (%)



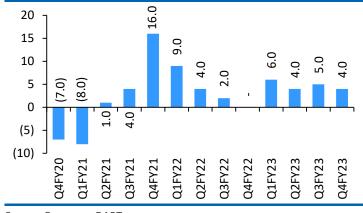
Source: Company, DART

Exhibit 8: Ad spends as a % of sales



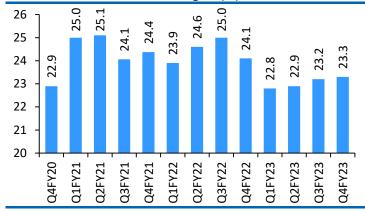
Source: Company, DART

Exhibit 5: Trend in domestic volume growth (%)



Source: Company, DART

Exhibit 7: Trend in EBITDA margins (%)



Source: Company, DART

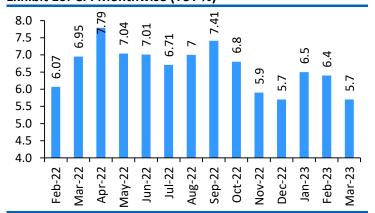
Exhibit 9: Commodity prices (Palm Oil)- Rs /MT



Source: Company, DART

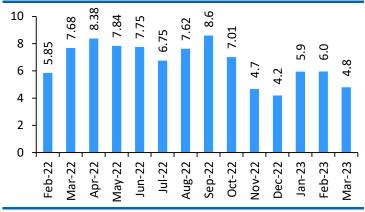


Exhibit 10: CPI Monthwise (YoY %)



Source: Company, DART

Exhibit 11: Food Inflation Monthwise (YoY %)



Source: Company, DART



46,030

6,03,522

28,958

5,89,017

Financial Performance

Profit and Loss Account

| (Rs Mn) | FY22A | FY23A | FY24E | FY25E |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Revenue | 5,11,930 | 5,91,440 | 6,51,357 | 7,08,355 |
| Total Expense | 3,86,900 | 4,55,123 | 4,96,188 | 5,37,752 |
| COGS | 2,51,240 | 3,11,441 | 3,37,130 | 3,65,001 |
| Employees Cost | 23,990 | 26,651 | 30,654 | 34,753 |
| Other expenses | 1,11,670 | 1,17,030 | 1,28,405 | 1,37,998 |
| EBIDTA | 1,25,030 | 1,36,318 | 1,55,169 | 1,70,603 |
| Depreciation | 10,250 | 10,300 | 10,820 | 11,302 |
| EBIT | 1,14,780 | 1,26,018 | 1,44,349 | 1,59,301 |
| Interest | 980 | 1,010 | 1,111 | 1,222 |
| Other Income | 3,930 | 6,402 | 6,389 | 6,760 |
| Exc. / E.O. items | (340) | (620) | 0 | C |
| EBT | 1,17,390 | 1,30,790 | 1,49,627 | 1,64,839 |
| Tax | 29,210 | 31,170 | 37,407 | 41,210 |
| RPAT | 88,180 | 99,620 | 1,12,220 | 1,23,629 |
| Minority Interest | 0 | 0 | 0 | C |
| Profit/Loss share of associates | 0 | 0 | 0 | C |
| APAT | 88,520 | 1,00,240 | 1,12,220 | 1,23,629 |
| Balance Sheet | | | | |
| (Rs Mn) | FY22A | FY23A | FY24E | FY25E |
| Sources of Funds | | | | |
| Equity Capital | 2,350 | 2,350 | 2,350 | 2,350 |
| Minority Interest | 0 | 0 | 0 | C |
| Reserves & Surplus | 4,85,250 | 4,99,860 | 5,13,027 | 5,27,532 |
| Net Worth | 4,87,600 | 5,02,210 | 5,15,377 | 5,29,882 |
| Total Debt | 9,710 | 10,390 | 10,390 | 10,390 |
| Net Deferred Tax Liability | 61,410 | 63,250 | 63,250 | 63,250 |
| Total Capital Employed | 5,58,720 | 5,75,850 | 5,89,017 | 6,03,522 |

| Applications of Funds | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Net Block | 5,10,340 | 5,14,050 | 5,11,230 | 5,07,928 |
| CWIP | 9,010 | 10,200 | 10,200 | 10,200 |
| Investments | 41,220 | 37,940 | 38,628 | 39,364 |
| Current Assets, Loans & Advances | 1,20,270 | 1,40,350 | 1,80,610 | 2,09,132 |
| Inventories | 38,900 | 40,310 | 47,120 | 51,247 |
| Receivables | 19,320 | 27,350 | 22,954 | 24,965 |
| Cash and Bank Balances | 36,180 | 44,220 | 80,212 | 1,00,637 |
| Loans and Advances | 25,870 | 28,470 | 30,325 | 32,283 |
| Other Current Assets | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions | 1,22,120 | 1,26,690 | 1,51,652 | 1,63,102 |
| Payables | 88,640 | 93,910 | 1,17,985 | 1,28,321 |
| Other Current Liabilities | 33,480 | 32,780 | 33,667 | 34,782 |
| sub tot | al | | | |

(1,850)

5,58,720

13,660

5,75,850

Net Current Assets

Total Assets E – Estimates



| Particulars | FY22A | FY23A | FY24E | FY25E |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| (A) Margins (%) | | | | |
| Gross Profit Margin | 50.9 | 47.3 | 48.2 | 48.5 |
| EBIDTA Margin | 24.4 | 23.0 | 23.8 | 24.1 |
| EBIT Margin | 22.4 | 21.3 | 22.2 | 22.5 |
| Tax rate | 24.9 | 23.8 | 25.0 | 25.0 |
| Net Profit Margin | 17.2 | 16.8 | 17.2 | 17.5 |
| (B) As Percentage of Net Sales (%) | | | | |
| COGS | 49.1 | 52.7 | 51.8 | 51.5 |
| Employee | 4.7 | 4.5 | 4.7 | 4.9 |
| Other | 21.8 | 19.8 | 19.7 | 19.5 |
| (C) Measure of Financial Status | | | | |
| Gross Debt / Equity | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Interest Coverage | 117.1 | 124.8 | 129.9 | 130.3 |
| Inventory days | 28 | 25 | 26 | 26 |
| Debtors days | 14 | 17 | 13 | 13 |
| Average Cost of Debt | 10.2 | 10.0 | 10.7 | 11.8 |
| Payable days | 63 | 58 | 66 | 66 |
| Working Capital days | (1) | 8 | 16 | 24 |
| FA T/O | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| (D) Measures of Investment | | | | |
| AEPS (Rs) | 37.7 | 42.7 | 47.8 | 52.6 |
| CEPS (Rs) | 42.0 | 47.0 | 52.4 | 57.4 |
| DPS (Rs) | 32.0 | 36.0 | 42.2 | 46.4 |
| Dividend Payout (%) | 84.9 | 84.4 | 88.3 | 88.3 |
| BVPS (Rs) | 207.5 | 213.7 | 219.3 | 225.5 |
| RoANW (%) | 18.3 | 20.1 | 22.1 | 23.7 |
| RoACE (%) | 16.2 | 17.8 | 19.5 | 20.9 |
| RoAIC (%) | 22.4 | 23.9 | 27.7 | 31.5 |
| (E) Valuation Ratios | | | | |
| CMP (Rs) | 2469 | 2469 | 2469 | 2469 |
| P/E | 65.5 | 57.9 | 51.7 | 46.9 |
| Mcap (Rs Mn) | 58,02,033 | 58,02,033 | 58,02,033 | 58,02,033 |
| MCap/ Sales | 11.3 | 9.8 | 8.9 | 8.2 |
| EV | 57,75,563 | 57,68,203 | 57,32,211 | 57,11,786 |
| EV/Sales | 11.3 | 9.8 | 8.8 | 8.1 |
| EV/EBITDA | 46.2 | 42.3 | 36.9 | 33.5 |
| P/BV | 11.9 | 11.6 | 11.3 | 10.9 |
| Dividend Yield (%) | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.9 |
| (F) Growth Rate (%) | | | | |
| Revenue | 11.3 | 15.5 | 10.1 | 8.8 |
| EBITDA | 10.4 | 9.0 | 13.8 | 9.9 |
| EBIT | 11.3 | 9.8 | 14.5 | 10.4 |
| PBT | 11.9 | 11.4 | 14.4 | 10.2 |
| APAT | 8.2 | 13.2 | 12.0 | 10.2 |
| EPS | 8.2 | 13.2 | 12.0 | 10.2 |



| Cash | Flow |
|------|------|
|------|------|

| Particulars | FY22A | FY23A | FY24E | FY25E |
|--|----------|----------|------------|------------|
| Profit before tax | 1,17,730 | 1,31,410 | 1,49,627 | 1,64,839 |
| Depreciation & w.o. | 10,250 | 10,300 | 10,820 | 11,302 |
| Net Interest Exp | 980 | 1,010 | 1,111 | 1,222 |
| Direct taxes paid | (29,210) | (31,170) | (37,407) | (41,210) |
| Change in Working Capital | (8,000) | (7,470) | 20,693 | 3,353 |
| Non Cash | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| (A) CF from Operating Activities | 91,750 | 1,04,080 | 1,44,844 | 1,39,507 |
| Capex {(Inc.)/ Dec. in Fixed Assets n WIP} | (13,100) | (15,200) | (8,000) | (8,000) |
| Free Cash Flow | 78,650 | 88,880 | 1,36,844 | 1,31,507 |
| (Inc)./ Dec. in Investments | (11,270) | 3,280 | (688) | (736) |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| (B) CF from Investing Activities | (24,370) | (11,920) | (8,688) | (8,736) |
| Issue of Equity/ Preference | 1,480 | 800 | 0 | 0 |
| Inc./(Dec.) in Debt | 280 | 680 | 0 | 0 |
| Interest exp net | (980) | (1,010) | (1,111) | (1,222) |
| Dividend Paid (Incl. Tax) | (75,190) | (84,590) | (99,054) | (1,09,124) |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| (C) CF from Financing | (74,410) | (84,120) | (1,00,165) | (1,10,346) |
| Net Change in Cash | (7,030) | 8,040 | 35,992 | 20,425 |
| Opening Cash balances | 43,210 | 36,180 | 44,220 | 80,212 |
| Closing Cash balances | 36,180 | 44,220 | 80,212 | 1,00,637 |

E – Estimates

| Notes |
|-------|
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DART RATING MATRIX

Total Return Expectation (12 Months)

| Buy | > 20% |
|------------|-----------|
| Accumulate | 10 to 20% |
| Reduce | 0 to 10% |
| Sell | < 0% |

Rating and Target Price History



| Month | Rating | TP (Rs.) | Price (Rs.) |
|--------|------------|----------|-------------|
| Apr-22 | Accumulate | 2,365 | 2,145 |
| May-22 | Accumulate | 2,365 | 2,353 |
| Jul-22 | Accumulate | 2,780 | 2,568 |
| Oct-22 | Reduce | 2,780 | 2,654 |
| Nov-22 | Reduce | 2,780 | 2,484 |
| Dec-22 | Accumulate | 2,939 | 2,671 |
| Jan-23 | Accumulate | 2,900 | 2,650 |

^{*}Price as on recommendation date

DART Team

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