

4 June 2024

MM Forgings

Attractive valuation; retaining a Buy

Rating: **Buy**

Target Price (12-mth): Rs.1,500

Share Price: Rs.1,178

MM Forgings' Q4 EBITDA grew a healthy 18% y/y to Rs753m but lagged our estimated Rs816m due to less-than-expected revenue. We reckon the domestic M&H CV volume uptrend would hold, at a 5% CAGR over FY24-26, on economic activity and replacement demand. Growth would be driven by new products (gear blanks, long shafts, larger crankshafts) and market-share gains. The company is trading at an attractive valuation of 18x/14x FY25e/FY26e EPS, at a large discount to peers like BHFC (56x/40x) and RMKF (29x/24x). With a higher wallet-share and sharper focus on EV-specific components, its outperformance would continue. The stock is among our top picks in ancillaries. We retain a Buy, with a higher 12-mth TP of Rs1,500, 18x FY26e EPS (earlier Rs1,200, 15x FY26e EPS).

EBITDA miss. Standalone revenue grew 4% y/y to Rs3.88bn, below our Rs4.17bn estimate due to the drop in inventory with customers. EBITDA grew a healthy 18% to Rs753m, though below our estimated Rs816m owing to less-than-expected revenue. The EBITDA margin expanded 220bps y/y, 50bps q/q, to 19.4%, on the higher gross margin. The gross margin rose 480bps y/y, 260bps q/q to 55.6%. Employee costs grew 10% to Rs377m. Power and fuel expenses grew 9% to Rs361m. Other expenses grew 14% to Rs668m. Interest cost rose 83% to Rs133m. The tax rate was 26% vs. 33.8% a year ago and 30.8% the prior quarter. Overall, PAT grew 30% to Rs380m, below our estimated Rs426m due to less-than-anticipated operating profit and higher interest cost.

Valuation. We expect a 17% EPS CAGR over FY24-26, driven by an 11% revenue CAGR and a 210bp EBITDA margin expansion. Our FY25e EPS is slightly lower due to high interest and depreciation costs, while FY26e EPS is slightly higher on better margins. We retain a Buy at a higher 12-mth TP of Rs1,500, 18x FY26e EPS (earlier Rs1,200, 15x FY26e EPS). We raise our multiple on higher EBITDA growth and coming EV opportunities (Abhinava Rizel). **Key risks:** Less-than-expected growth in underlying segments, delay in order executions, adverse commodity/forex movements.

Key data	MMFG IN / MMFO.NS
52-week high / low	Rs.1,302 / 825
Sensex / Nifty	76469 / 23264
3-m average volume	\$1.5m
Market cap	Rs.28bn / \$342m
Shares outstanding	24m

Shareholding pattern (%)	Mar'24	Dec '23	Sept'23
Promoters	56.3	56.3	56.3
- of which, Pledged			
Free Float	43.7	43.7	43.7
- Foreign institutions	2.3	1.9	1.7
- Domestic institutions	11.8	14.5	15.7
- Public	29.6	27.3	26.3

Estimates revision (%)	FY25e	FY26e
Sales	-0.8	-1.6
EBITDA	2.9	6.5
EPS	-3.8	2.4

Relative price performance



Source: Bloomberg

Key financials (YE Mar)	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25e	FY26e
Sales (Rs m)	11,046	14,128	15,271	16,688	18,665
Net profit (Rs m)	918	1,261	1,448	1,595	1,985
EPS (Rs)	38.0	52.3	60.0	66.1	82.2
Growth (%)	96.9	37.5	14.8	10.2	24.4
P/E (x)	31.0	22.5	19.6	17.8	14.3
EV / EBITDA (x)	15.9	12.9	11.9	11.0	9.4
P/BV (x)	4.9	4.1	3.5	3.0	2.5
RoE (%)	15.9	18.3	17.7	16.8	17.8
RoCE (%)	8.6	10.5	10.3	10.3	11.0
Dividend yield (%)	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.9
Net debt / equity (x)	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7

Source: Company, Anand Rathi Research

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Quick Glance – Financials and Valuations (Standalone)

Fig 1 – Income statement (Rs m)

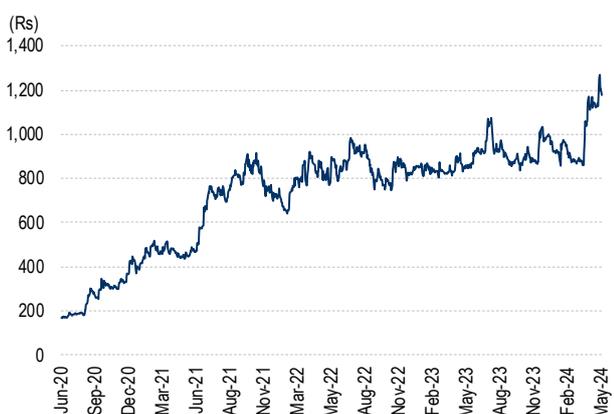
Year-end: Mar	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25e	FY26e
Net revenues	11,046	14,128	15,271	16,688	18,665
Growth (%)	52	28	8	9	12
RM cost	5,044	6,745	7,150	7,593	8,399
Employee cost	1,127	1,296	1,361	1,504	1,627
Other expenses	3,760	3,502	3,876	4,302	4,718
Direct costs	9,029	11,572	12,387	13,400	14,744
EBITDA	2,017	2,555	2,884	3,289	3,921
EBITDA margins (%)	18.3	18.1	18.9	19.7	21.0
- Depreciation	601	694	725	801	892
Other income	186	161	254	304	359
Interest expenses	273	296	426	660	735
PBT	1,329	1,757	1,987	2,131	2,652
Effective tax rates (%)	31	28	27	25	25
Net income	918	1,261	1,448	1,595	1,985
Adjusted income	918	1,261	1,448	1,595	1,985
WANS	24	24	24	24	24
FDEPS (Rs)	38.0	52.3	60.0	66.1	82.2
Growth (%)	97	37	15	10	24

Fig 3 – Cash-flow statement (Rs m)

Year-end: Mar	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25e	FY26e
PBT	1,329	1,759	1,994	2,131	2,652
+ Non-cash items	741	859	950	801	892
Oper. prof. before WC	2,070	2,619	2,944	2,932	3,545
- Incr. / (decr.) in WC	329	1,032	1,180	474	568
Others incl. taxes	-268	-424	-319	-536	-668
Operating cash-flow	1,473	1,162	1,446	1,922	2,309
- Capex (tang. + intang.)	-1,113	-1,563	-2,201	-3,500	-2,500
Free cash-flow	360	-401	-755	-1,578	-191
- Div. (incl. buyback & taxes)	-126	-145	-145	-255	-318
+ Equity raised	-	-	-	-	-
+ Debt raised	489	-178	555	1,500	500
- Fin investments	-	-	-	-	-
- Misc. (CFI + CFF)	-348	508	409	-0	-0
Net cash-flow	375	-216	63	-334	-9

Source: Company, Anand Rathi Research

Fig 5 – Price movement



Source: Bloomberg

Fig 2 – Balance sheet (Rs m)

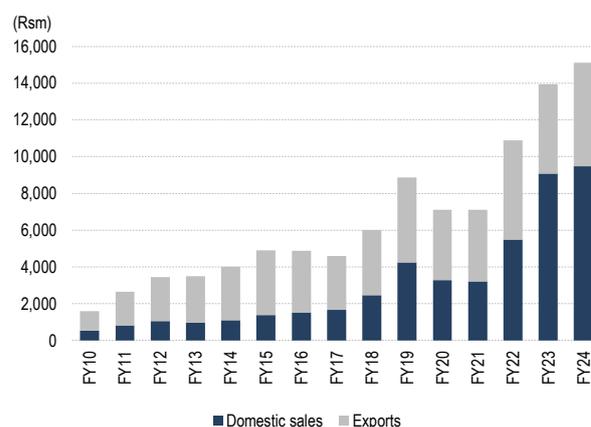
Year-end: Mar	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25e	FY26e
Share capital	241	241	241	241	241
Net worth	5,776	6,902	8,163	9,503	11,170
Debt	5,915	6,539	8,050	9,550	10,050
Minority interest					
DTL / (Assets)	352	346	401	401	401
Capital employed	12,043	13,787	16,615	19,455	21,621
Net tangible assets	6,862	7,797	9,296	11,995	13,603
CWIP (tang. & intang.)	-	-	-	-	-
Investments (strategic)	329	407	413	413	413
Current assets (excl. cash)	4,956	6,501	8,158	8,781	9,506
Cash	2,245	2,029	2,092	1,759	1,750
Current liabilities	2,349	2,948	3,344	3,493	3,650
Working capital	2,607	3,553	4,814	5,288	5,856
Capital deployed	12,043	13,787	16,615	19,455	21,621

Fig 4 – Ratio analysis

Year-end: Mar	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25e	FY26e
P/E (x)	31.0	22.5	19.6	17.8	14.3
EV / EBITDA (x)	15.9	12.9	11.9	11.0	9.4
EV / Sales (x)	2.9	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.0
P/B (x)	4.9	4.1	3.5	3.0	2.5
RoE (%)	15.9	18.3	17.7	16.8	17.8
RoCE (%) - after tax	8.6	10.5	10.3	10.3	11.0
RoIC (%) - after tax	10.8	13.0	12.4	11.9	12.3
DPS (Rs)	6.0	6.0	8.0	8.8	11.0
Dividend yield (%)	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.9
Dividend payout (%)	15.8	11.5	13.3	16.0	16.0
Net debt / equity (x)	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7
Receivables (days)	56	60	83	87	91
Inventory (days)	139	157	175	175	175
Payables (days)	85	87	88	88	88
CFO: PAT (%)	160.5	92.1	99.9	120.5	116.4

Source: Company, Anand Rathi Research

Fig 6 – Revenue-mix trend



Source: Company

Q4 Earnings Call Takeaways

- **Outlook.** The company expects FY25 production to grow 8-12% to 92,000-95,000 tonnes. Its FY24 production/sales were 84,800/77,000 tonnes. Domestic revenue would rise 10%, led by 5-7% growth in CV volumes and increase in wallet share (heavy presses - front axles, knuckles, crankshafts). Exports would grow 10-15%, led by orders despite weak overseas CVs. The company expects better CV demand globally from H2 FY25. It is seeing increased orders from global customers due to the China+1 strategy.
- The company is working on increasing the bandwidth of **senior management** to support a higher revenue trajectory of >Rs30bn.
- **Abhinava Rizel.** ~Rs1bn revenue expected by FY27, ~Rs20bn over the next decade. Orders are likely soon. For FY25, investment expected at Rs750m (Rs250m investment in FY24) for up to a 60kW motor line and other infrastructure. The line would be ready in the next two weeks. It can manufacture e-axle components (motors of up to 300kW – among a few globally, controllers and gear boxes). The initial focus is on PMSM motors; prototypes have been tested over 75,000km. Besides, it can supply power electronics (via its Suvarchas Vidyut subsidiary), such as alternators.
- **Margins.** The FY24 better gross margin was led by value addition, cost reductions and product mix. Ahead, improvement is expected, from lower operational costs (manpower, power & fuel) and higher machining mix (62-65% in FY25; >75% in the medium term vs. 57% in FY24). The share of renewables was 25% of 120m units of electricity consumed (saving Rs3/unit); this is likely more than 80% over the medium to long term, which would save Rs200m (or grow margins 150bps). The company expects the EBITDA margin to cross 20% by Q3 FY25 and the early-20% in FY26.
- **Capex.** The company expects project capex of Rs3.25bn for FY25 (Rs2.5bn for machining) and Rs1.75bn (forgings capacity of 20,000 tonnes) for FY26. It aims at funding Rs2bn-3bn by debt and the rest by internal accruals. Forgings capacity would rise from 126,000 tonnes to 146,000 by FY26 for mid-range presses, required for a few orders.
- **Interest cost** to rise to ~Rs650m in FY25, from Rs426m in FY24, to fund capex. Inventory (b/s) to reduce by Rs500m-1bn in FY25.
- **Dividend payout** expected at 15-20%.
- **FY24 revenue mix**
 - Geographically: India 65%, Europe 16%, North America 12%, South America 7%.
 - Segment-wise: CVs 81%, PVs 10%, non-auto 9%.

Results highlights

Fig 7 – Quarterly performance

(Rs m)	Q4 FY23	Q1 FY24	Q2 FY24	Q3 FY24	Q4 FY24	YY (%)	Q/Q (%)	FY24	FY23	YY (%)
Revenue	3,733	3,655	3,841	3,881	3,886	4.1	0.1	15,271	14,093	8.4
Expenditure	3,093	3,035	3,122	3,151	3,133	1.3	(0.6)	12,387	11,538	7.4
as % of sales	82.9	83.0	81.3	81.2	80.6			81.1	81.9	
Consumption of RM	1,837	1,772	1,822	1,828	1,727	(6.0)	(5.5)	7,150	6,744	6.0
as % of sales	49.2	48.5	47.4	47.1	44.4			46.8	47.9	
Employee cost	341	319	326	324	377	10.5	16.4	1,361	1,265	7.6
as % of sales	9.1	8.7	8.5	8.3	9.7			8.9	9.0	
Power & fuel	331	328	376	362	361	8.9	(0.3)	1,436	1,236	16.2
as % of sales	8.9	9.0	9.8	9.3	9.3			9.4	8.8	
Other expenditure	584	615	599	637	668	14.5	4.9	2,439	2,292	6.4
as % of sales	15.6	16.8	15.6	16.4	17.2			16.0	16.3	
EBITDA	640	621	719	731	753	17.6	3.0	2,884	2,555	12.9
Depreciation	177	175	175	186	175	(1.1)	(5.7)	725	676	7.2
EBIT	463	446	544	544	577	24.7	6.0	2,159	1,879	14.9
Other income	53	63	51	68	72	34.9	6.0	254	161	57.4
Interest	73	95	87	109	133	83.0	21.2	426	292	45.7
PBT	443	413	509	503	516	16.4	2.7	1,987	1,748	13.7
Total tax	150	113	143	155	136	(9.4)	(12.3)	540	493	9.6
Adj. PAT	293	301	366	348	380	29.6	9.3	1,448	1,256	15.3
Extraordinary items loss/(gain)	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	
Reported PAT	293	301	366	348	380	29.6	9.3	1,448	1,256	15.3
Adj. EPS (Rs)	12.2	12.5	15.2	14.4	15.8	29.6	9.3	60.0	52.0	15.3
Margins (%)						(bps)	(bps)			(bps)
Gross	50.8	51.5	52.6	52.9	55.6	476	264	53.2	52.1	104
EBIDTA	17.1	17.0	18.7	18.8	19.4	222	54	18.9	18.1	75
EBIT	12.4	12.2	14.2	14.0	14.9	246	82	14.1	13.3	80
PAT	11.9	11.3	13.2	13.0	13.3	141	33	13.0	12.4	61
Effective tax rates	7.9	8.2	9.5	9.0	9.8	193	83	9.5	8.9	57

Source: Company

Valuations

Attractive valuations (trading at a notable discount to peers). The stock quotes at attractive valuations of 18x/14x FY25e/FY26e EPS, a huge discount to peers such as BHFC (56x/40x) and RMKF (29x/24x). BHFC and RMKF are trading above +1std valuations; the company is trading only at slightly higher than mean valuations (*Fig 15 for more details*).

Sound domestic performance. Domestic revenue outpaced M&H CV production growth, registering a 17% CAGR over FY19-24 (vs. industry M&H CV volumes declining 2%), led by market share gains and an increase in content per vehicle (on a better tonnage mix). Also, domestic revenue growth (a 17% CAGR over FY19-24) has been better than peers BHFC standalone (9%) and RMKF standalone (10%), on higher market share than peers, particularly BHFC.

Robust growth profile. In the last five years, growth in standalone revenue/EBITDA/EPS/RoE has been better than BHFC's (*Fig 9 for more details*), led by strong domestic revenue. Ahead, it would continue to be better than BHFC's on a favorable mix of the domestic segment (*Fig. 10 for more details*).

Favorable regional mix. The company has higher domestic revenue (65%) than BHFC's 42% and RMKF's 58%. Though weakness in overseas CVs is expected, the company would be less affected than peers.

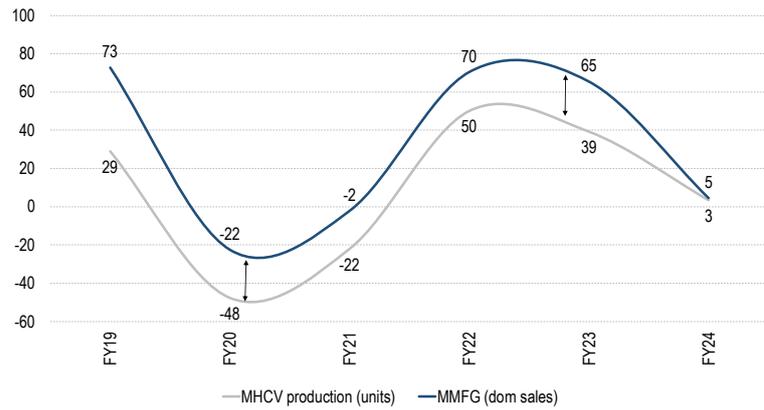
New products such as gear blanks, long shafts and larger crankshafts for CVs/PVs were developed and aided growth in FY24. Recently, PV crankshaft capacity was raised from 40,000 units to 50,000. Besides, the company is focusing on **diversifying** to PVs/non-autos and improving the **machining mix**, expected to rise from 57% in FY24 to 75% over the medium term.

Better mix, operating scale to support margins. We expect the EBITDA margin to rise from 18.9% in FY24 to 21% in FY26, aided by the greater scale, machining mix and lower operational costs (manpower, power & fuel). The post-tax RoE/RoCE would be >16%/10%.

Rs3bn capex expected annually over the next two years to expand machining capabilities, forgings capacity (20,000 tonnes) and new products. Installed capacity is 126,000 tonnes at ~67% utilisation. Net debt/equity was stable at 0.7x in FY24 and likely to be steady in FY26 due to higher capex spend.

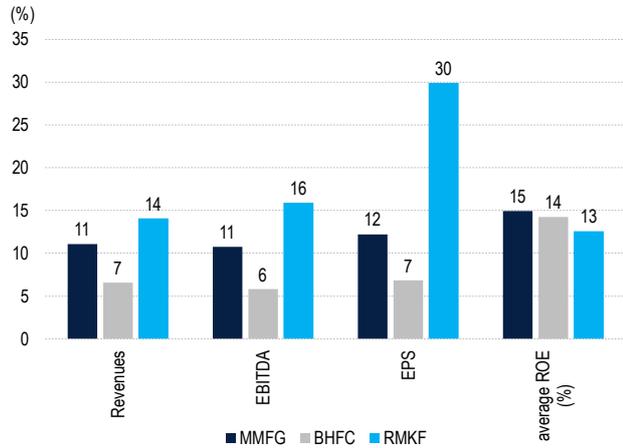
View, Valuations. We expect healthy, 11%/17%, standalone revenue/ EPS CAGRs over FY24-26. Valuations are comfortable at 18x/14x FY25e/FY26e EPS. **We recommend a Buy, with a 12-mth TP of Rs1,500, 18x FY26e EPS of Rs82.2.** Our multiple is closer to +1std of the past 10-year average.

Fig 8 – MMFG’s growth better than India’s M&H CVs



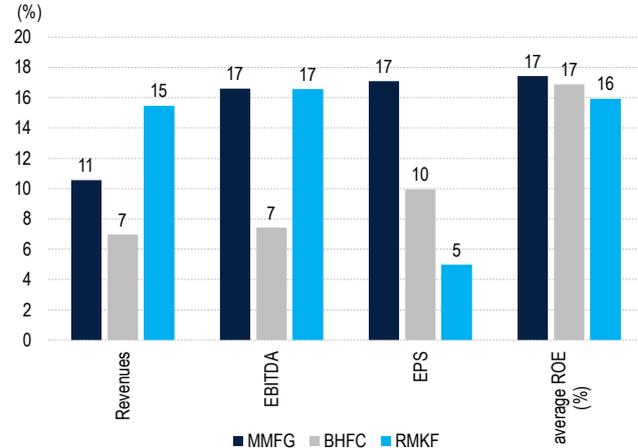
Source: Company, Anand Rath Research

Fig 9 – MMFG’s past growth profile better than BHFC’s



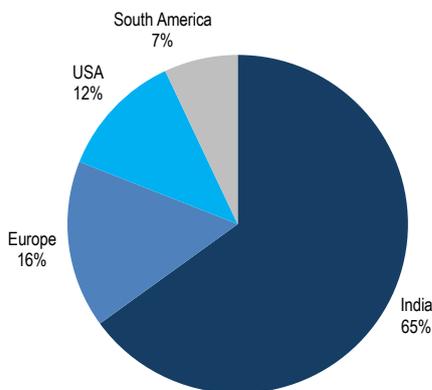
Source: Company, Anand Rath Research

Fig 10 – Next two-year growth profile better than BHFC’s



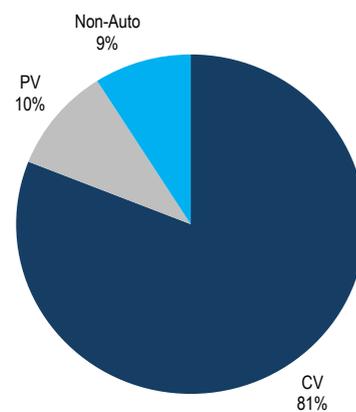
Source: Company, Anand Rath Research

Fig 11 – Geographical mix



Source: Company, Anand Rath Research

Fig 12 – Segmental revenue mix



Source: Company, Anand Rath Research

Fig 13 – Key assumptions

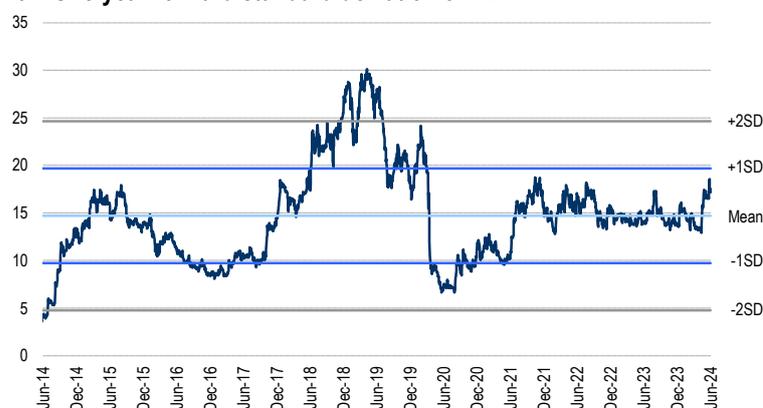
(Rs m)	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25e	FY26e	CAGR %, FY24-26
Domestic	3,215	5,480	9,090	9,480	10,428	11,471	10
Y/Y change, %	-2.2	70.5	65.9	4.3	10.0	10.0	
Exports	3,900	5,400	4,896	5,631	6,082	6,994	11
Y/Y change, %	2.0	38.5	-9.3	15.0	8.0	15.0	
Total	7,115	10,880	13,986	15,111	16,510	18,465	11
Y/Y change, %	0.1	52.9	28.6	8.0	9.3	11.8	

Source: Company, Anand Rathi research

Fig 14 – Change in estimates

(Rs m)	Old		Revised		Change (%)	
	FY25e	FY26e	FY25e	FY26e	FY25	FY26
Revenue	16,826	18,973	16,688	18,665	-0.8	-1.6
EBITDA	3,197	3,681	3,289	3,921	2.9	6.5
% of revenue	19.0	19.4	19.7	21.0		
Adj. PAT	1,658	1,937	1,595	1,985	-3.8	2.4
EPS (Rs)	68.7	80.2	66.1	82.2	-3.8	2.4

Source: Company, Anand Rathi research

Fig 15 – One-year-forward standard deviation of PE

Source: Bloomberg, Anand Rathi Research

Risks

- Less-than-anticipated growth in underlying segments.
- Delay in executing orders.
- Adverse commodity/forex movements.

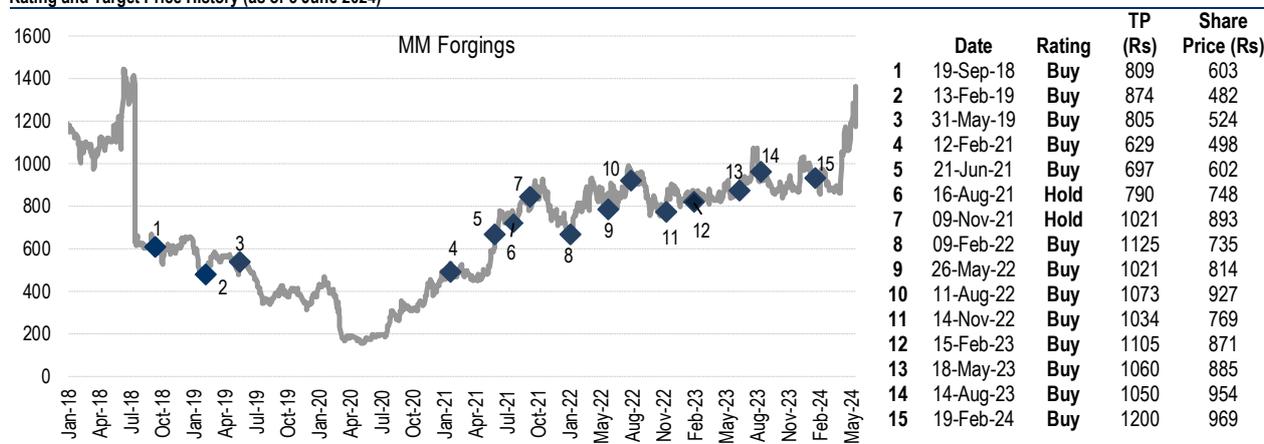
Appendix

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