

Sagar Cements (SGC)

Cement | Plant Visit Update

June 27, 2025

HOLD

CMP: Rs236 | Target Price (TP): Rs241 | Upside: 2%

Implementing best practices and increasing operational efficiency

Key Points

- ➤ We recently visited Sagar Cements' Durga Cement Works plant in Dachepalli, Andhra Pradesh. The plant has a cement capacity of 2.25MTPA and is equipped with a 30MW captive power plant. Located approximately 180km from Hyderabad, it lies near the Krishna River Cluster—home to India's largest limestone reserve. The plant is strategically situated just 650m from this reserve, which is estimated to last around 100 years (~315MnT), with potential expansion up to 700MnT through future excavation.
- ➤ The plant is currently undergoing a technological upgrade with a new preheater scheduled for commissioning by Sep-25. This upgrade is expected to reduce its energy consumption from 770–800Kcal/kg to 700Kcal/kg. Solar and WHRS remain the most cost-effective sources of power, with unit costs at Rs2.5/kWh and Rs1.25/kWh, respectively.
- ➤ The company plans to increase Dachepalli plant's cement capacity from 2.25MTPA to 3MTPA and clinker capacity from 1.85MTPA to 2.31MTPA by end-FY26. Currently, the plant relies primarily on road transport as rail sidings are not viable at existing capacity. However, the site holds sufficient land to support a future expansion of up to 9MTPA.
- ➤ The Securities and Exchange Board (SEBI) requires Sagar Cements to meet the minimum shareholding norms to reduce its stake in Andhra Cements from 95% to 75% as per the guidelines.
- Views and Valuation: We retain a HOLD rating and value SGC at 8.8x Mar-27E EV/EBITDA with a target price of Rs241, reflecting increased competition intensity that will impact volumes and prices for SGC. The management's outlook on profitability and margins is based on evolving industry dynamics, where consolidation is expected to enhance pricing mechanisms, leading to an increase in realization by Rs180-200/T.

Est Change	Upgrade
TP Change	Upgrade
Rating Change	No Change

Company Data and Valuation Summary

Reuters:	SGRC.BO
Bloomberg:	SGC IN Equity
Mkt Cap (Rsbn/US\$bn):	30.9 / 356.4
52 Wk H / L (Rs):	267 / 168
ADTV-3M (mn) (Rs/US\$):	25.4 / 0.3
Stock performance (%) 1M/6M/1yr:	(4.2) / 8.9 / (5.5)
Nifty 50 performance (%) 1M/6M/1yr:	2.2 / 8.8 / 6.3

Shareholding	2QFY25	3QFY25	4QFY25
Promoters	48.3	48.3	48.3
DIIs	17.6	17.9	18.0
FIIs	2.6	2.6	2.6
Others	31.5	31.2	31.1
Pro pledge	79.9	79.9	80.8

Financial and Valuation Summary

Particulars (Rsmn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Net Sales	25,046	22,576	25,444	29,614
Growth YoY %	12.3	(9.9)	12.7	16.4
EBITDA	2,459	1,411	3,352	4,650
EBITDA margin %	9.8	6.2	13.2	15.7
Adj PAT	(668)	(1,895)	534	1,271
Growth YoY %	NA	NA	NA	137.9
Adj EPS (Rs)	(4.0)	(16.6)	4.1	9.7
RoE	(2.9)	(11.8)	3.1	6.9
EV/EBITDA	17.4	30.9	12.6	8.7
EV/mt (\$)	49.9	41.6	40.5	34.4
P/E (x)	(59.4)	(14.3)	57.8	24.3

Source: Company, Bloomberg, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Key Links: 4QFY25 Result

Please refer to the disclaimer towards the end of the document.

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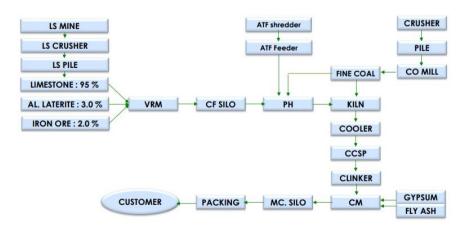


Plant visit highlights:

- Strategic Acquisition & Upgrade: Sagar Cements acquired a 95% stake in Andhra Cement Ltd (ACL) for Rs9.22bn in Feb-23. It has since discontinued the Vizag plant and focused on upgrading the Dachepalli unit with completion targeted by Mar-26. The upgradation is expected to yield cost savings of Rs300–350/t.
- Plant Capacity & Expansion Plans: The Durga Cement Works (DCW) plant has a current capacity of 2.25MTPA in cement and 1.85MTPA in clinker, supported by a 30MW captive power plant. Cement capacity is being expanded to 3MTPA and clinker to 2.31MTPA by FY26.
- Abundant Limestone Reserves: The plant is located near the Krishna River Cluster, India's largest limestone reserve, with current reserves of ~315MnT and potential to reach ~700MnT.
 Mines are just 650m from the plant, thus offering logistical advantages.
- Energy Mix & Solar Integration: The plant operates on both coal and pet coke, sourced from countries like South Africa, the US, and Saudi Arabia. A 6MW solar plant (covering ~30% of power needs) is expected to be operational by Jun-25.
- Fly Ash Cost Optimization: Fly ash is currently sourced at Rs 600-700/t from various sources.
 A long-term deal with NTPC (30-40km away) is underway, which could reduce fly ash cost to Rs400/t due to transport savings.
- Operational Efficiency Initiatives: The plant maintains ~30 days of fuel inventory and undergoes scheduled shutdowns every six months for 20-25 days. It processes ~60,000-70,000 tonnes of limestone on a weekly basis.
- Market & Pricing Dynamics: Cement prices in its core markets (AP, Telangana, TN) are around Rs320-330/bag, higher than Rs280/bag in Mar-25. Prices are more favorable in Karnataka due to lesser fragmentation.
- Product Mix and Market Demand: The plant's product mix comprises of 60% OPC and 40% PPC. Rural India is highlighted as a key demand driver for cement.
- Financial & Volume Outlook: The company aims to exceed breakeven in the next two years, guiding for 9-14% volume growth in FY26. 1QFY26 demand is expected to improve due to a low base and stable conditions.
- Merger & Asset Valuation: SEBI requires ACL to meet minimum public shareholding norms.
 The Vizag land parcel is valued at Rs3.5bn (after capital gains), pending final approvals.

Cement manufacturing process







- The cement manufacturing process begins with limestone mining followed by crushing and stacking into a limestone pile. Materials required are 95% limestone, 3.0% laterite, and 2.0% iron ore; the materials are proportioned and fed into the VRM for raw material grinding. The output, called raw mix, is stored in the CF silo.
- Meanwhile, coal used for kiln firing is separately crushed, stacked, and ground in the coal mill and then fed into the main burner of the kiln and the PH system. The raw mix, fed into the PH, undergoes calcination in the presence of the fired fuel. The calcined raw mix then enters the rotary kiln, where clinker formation takes place. The hot clinker is subsequently cooled in the cooler and stored in the CSP.
- The clinker is then mixed with gypsum, Flyash/Slag in the cement mill to produce finished cement, which is stored in the multi-compartment silo. Finally, the cement is packed and dispatched to customers.

Quality assurance process







ROBOTIC LABORATORY XRF FLUORESCENCE SPECTROMETER CROSS BELT GAMMA METRIC ANALYSER

- ➤ Sagar Cements employs a technologically advanced, multi-layered quality assurance system integrated across its cement manufacturing process. Central to this is its robotic laboratory, developed with FLS-Denmark technology, which automates sample preparation, grinding, and analysis via XRF and XRD systems. This setup enables real-time quality monitoring, reduces human error, and allows continuous 24/7 operations with faster turnaround for corrective actions. The use of a Gamma Metric Cross-Belt Analyzer (CBX) enables real-time limestone quality assessment, thus helping maintain raw mix consistency and mineral conservation.
- ➤ To ensure redundancy and compliance, a conventional lab operates in parallel for manual testing and serves as backup during robotic lab downtime. Together, these systems ensure rigorous quality control, process efficiency, and high product consistency aligned with regulatory and performance standards.



Exhibit 1: 4QFY25 consolidated performance

Particulars (Rsmn)	1Q24	2Q24	3Q24	4Q24	1Q25	2Q25	3Q25	4Q25	FY24	FY25
Net Sales	5,397	5,868	6,694	7,087	5,606	4,751	5,639	6,580	25,046	22,576
YoY Change	(3.2)%	23.7%	16.3%	14.0%	3.9%	(19.0)%	(15.8)%	(7.1)%	12.3%	(9.9)%
Expenditure										
Chg. in stock	(74)	(428)	(125)	(33)	(99)	166	(23)	(38)	(659)	6
RM consumption	1,020	1,124	1,177	1,276	1,073	876	1,035	1,259	4,597	4,243
Purchase of traded goods	53	62	26	37	31	18	9	2	178	59
Employee cost	268	299	299	307	304	307	376	344	1,173	1,331
Freight Costs	1,017	1,117	1,215	1,371	1,083	967	1,150	1,388	4,721	4,589
Power and fuel	2,093	2,393	2,496	2,540	2,043	1,547	2,005	2,374	9,522	7,970
Other exp	714	698	736	908	704	670	712	883	3,056	2,969
Total Operating Expenses	5,092	5,266	5,824	6,406	5,139	4,552	5,262	6,212	22,587	21,166
EBITDA	305	602	871	681	467	199	376	368	2,459	1,411
YoY Change	(50.1)%	954.6%	83.0%	75.3%	53.2%	(66.9)%	(56.8)%	(46.0)%	60.5%	(42.6)%
Margin	5.6%	10.3%	13.0%	9.6%	8.3%	4.2%	6.7%	5.6%	9.8%	6.2%
Depreciation	496	516	565	561	562	576	586	584	2,138	2,308
Interest	437	468	489	455	464	464	481	473	1,848	1,881
Other income	39	27	37	437	83	48	48	35	541	214
Extraordinary Items	-	148	-	-	-	-	-	-272	148	-272
PBT (bei)	(589)	(354)	(146)	103	(476)	(792)	(642)	(654)	(986)	(2,564)
PBT	(589)	(206)	(146)	103	(476)	(792)	(642)	(925)	(838)	(2,835)
Tax	(166)	(98)	(41)	(13)	(154)	(222)	(98)	(195)	(318)	(669)
ETR	28.3%	47.4%	28.1%	(12.5)%	32.3%	28.1%	15.2%	21.1%	NA	NA
Reported PAT	(422)	(109)	(105)	116	(322)	(570)	(545)	(731)	(520)	(2,167)
Adj. PAT	(422)	(256)	(105)	116	(322)	(570)	(545)	(459)	(668)	(1,895)
YoY Change	NA	NA	NA	(86.8)%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Adj. EPS (Rs)	(3.2)	(2.0)	(8.0)	0.9	(2.5)	(4.4)	(4.2)	(3.5)	(4.0)	(16.6)

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 2: Trend in operating costs

	•	U									
Costs/mt (Rs)	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)
RM consumption	916	847	578	766	795	785	914	740	723	(9.0)	(2.2)
Employee cost	190	228	228	213	190	238	265	272	203	6.8	(25.3)
Freight, packing etc.	834	862	851	864	851	846	834	833	821	(3.5)	(1.4)
Power and fuel	1,782	1,774	1,823	1,773	1,578	1,596	1,334	1,453	1,405	(10.9)	(3.3)
Other exp	572	605	532	523	564	550	578	516	523	(7.3)	1.4
Operating costs/mt	4,294	4,317	4,012	4,138	3,979	4,015	3,924	3,813	3,676	(7.6)	(3.6)
EBITDA/mt	286	258	459	619	423	365	172	273	218	(48.5)	(20.1)

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 3: Change in estimates

(Rsmn)	New			Old			% Change		
Particulars	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	22,576	25,444	29,614	22,855	25,982	26,290	-1%	-2%	13%
EBITDA	1,411	3,352	4,650	1,501	4,620	4,762	-6%	-27%	-2%
PAT	-2167	534	1271	-1,521	1,444	1,604	42%	-63%	-21%

Source: Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research



Operational performance on a per-ton basis

Exhibit 4: Volume increased 5% YoY

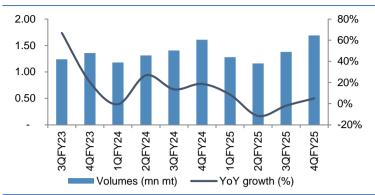


Exhibit 5: Realization declined 12% YoY



Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 6: EBITDA/T decreased 49% YoY

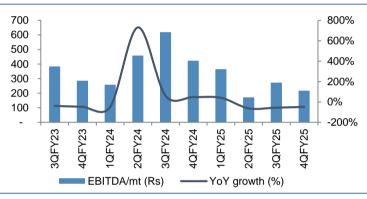
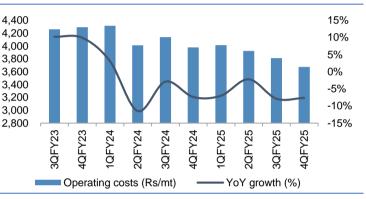


Exhibit 7: Operating cost decreased 8% YoY



Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 8: RM cost decreased 9% YoY

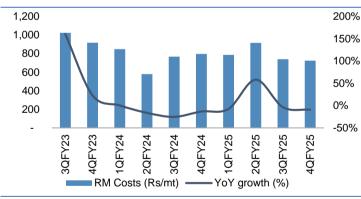
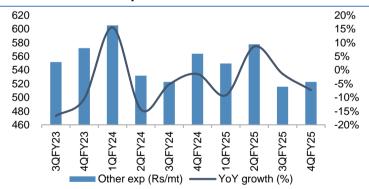


Exhibit 9: Other expenses decreased 7% YoY



Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 10: Power & Fuel cost declined 11% YoY

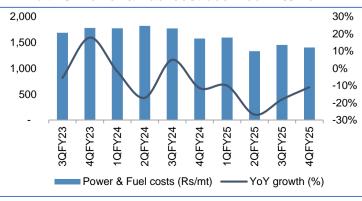
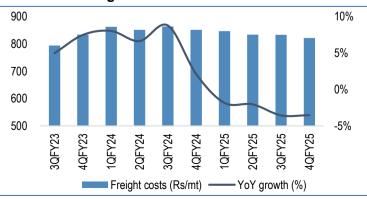


Exhibit 11: Freight cost declined 4% YoY



Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

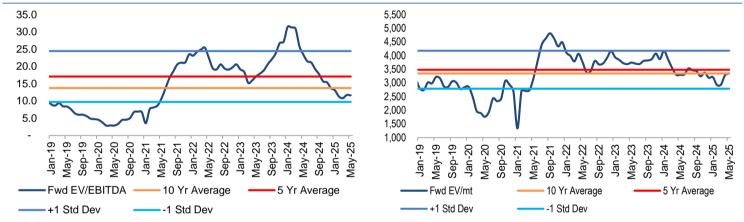


Exhibit 12: Valuation summary

Particulars	(Rsmn)
Mar-27E EBITDA	4,650
Target multiple (x)	8.8
Enterprise value	40,922
Less: Net debt	9,461
Equity value	31,461
No of shares (mn)	131
Value per share (Rs)	241
CMP (Rs)	236
Upside / (downside)	2%

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 13: Rolling valuation charts



Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research



Financial Statements

Exhibit 14: Income statement

YE March, Rs mn	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Net Sales	22,295	25,046	22,576	25,444	29,614
Raw Material Consumed	4,222	4,116	4,308	4,194	4,882
Power & Fuel Cost	8,935	9,522	7,970	8,445	9,323
Employee Cost	993	1,173	1,331	1,387	1,468
Freight and Forwarding	3,889	4,721	4,589	4,961	5,775
Other expenses	2,725	3,056	2,969	3,104	3,517
Total Expenditure	20,764	22,587	21,166	22,092	24,964
Operating profit	1,532	2,459	1,411	3,352	4,650
Operating profit margin (%)	7%	10%	6%	13%	16%
Other Income	2,227	541	214	621	839
Interest	2,016	1,848	1,881	1,691	1,969
Depreciation	1,558	2,138	2,308	1,569	1,826
PBT	185	(986)	(2,564)	712	1,695
Exceptional items	-	148	(272)	-	-
PBT post exc items	185	(838)	(2,835)	712	1,695
Tax	165	(318)	(669)	178	424
Tax rate (%)	89%	38%	24%	25%	25%
PAT	20	(668)	(1,895)	534	1,271
EPS (Rs)	0.2	(4.0)	(16.6)	4.1	9.7

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 16: Balance Sheet

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YE March, Rs mn	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E				
Equity Capital	261	261	261	261	261				
Reserves and Surplus	16,114	19,151	16,967	17,501	18,772				
Networth	16,375	19,412	17,228	17,762	19,034				
Total Debt	14,726	14,390	14,280	13,868	13,467				
Deferred tax liability	1,083	1,080	556	556	556				
Other non-current liabilities	1,022	1,352	1,229	1,201	1,261				
Trade Payables	3,088	5,183	5,783	6,014	6,255				
Other Current Liabilities	1,407	1,344	1,843	1,531	1,573				
Total Current Liabilities	7,697	10,026	11,991	11,692	11,767				
Total liabilities	38,232	43,562	41,766	41,780	42,992				
Net Block	27,235	31,982	30,390	30,301	30,001				
CWIP	992	147	1,232	600	600				
Investment	-	-	-	-	-				
Other non-current assets	1,775	2,291	2,474	2,412	2,218				
Inventories	2,709	3,075	2,736	2,818	2,903				
Sundry Debtors	1,332	2,077	2,042	2,083	2,124				
Cash and Bank	2,105	2,621	1,637	2,397	4,006				
Other current assets	1,550	847	560	474	444				
Total Current Assets	7,696	8,621	6,975	7,771	9,477				
Total Assets	38,232	43,562	41,766	41,780	42,992				

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 15: Cash flow statement

YE March, Rs mn	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Profit before tax	185	(841)	(2,835)	712	1,695
Add : Depreciation	1,558	2,141	2,308	1,569	1,826
Add: Interest Exp	2,016	1,848	1,881	1,691	1,969
Cash flow from ops before WC changes	3,759	3,148	1,354	3,973	5,489
Net change in Working capital	690	1,537	1,030	(118)	184
Tax paid	(165)	(96)	(44)	(178)	(424)
Net cash from operations	4,284	4,588	2,339	3,677	5,250
	(8,833)	(2,258)	(1,382)	(849)	(1,525)
Capital expenditure	(4,549)	2,330	958	2,828	3,724
Sale of investments	3,147	871	100	-	-
Net cash from investing	(5,602)	(1,875)	(1,133)	(786)	(1,332)
Issue of shares	26	-	-	-	-
Increase in debt	(307)	(359)	(1,179)	(412)	(402)
Dividends paid incl. tax	-	(92)	(92)	-	-
Interest paid	(2,016)	(1,756)	(1,921)	(1,691)	(1,969)
Net cash from financing	1,796	(2,206)	(2,173)	(2,131)	(2,309)
Net Cash	478	507	(967)	760	1,609
Opening Cash	1,627	2,105	2,621	1,637	2,397
Closing Cash	2,105	2,621	1,637	2,397	4,006

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

Exhibit 17: Key ratios

YE March	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E				
Growth (%)									
Sales	39.6	12.3	(9.9)	12.7	16.4				
Operating Profits	(44.5)	60.5	(42.6)	137.6	38.7				
Net Profits	(96.7)	NA	NA	NA	137.9				
Leverage (x)									
Net Debt: Equity	0.77	0.61	0.73	0.65	0.50				
Interest Cover (x)	0.76	1.33	0.75	1.98	2.36				
Total Debt/EBITDA	9.61	5.85	10.12	4.14	2.90				
Profitability (%)									
OPM	6.9	9.8	6.2	13.2	15.7				
NPM	0.1	(2.1)	(9.6)	2.1	4.3				
ROE	0.1	(2.9)	(11.8)	3.1	6.9				
ROCE	6.3	3.7	(8.0)	7.8	11.8				
Turnover ratios (x)									
GFAT	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6				
Debtors Turnover(x)	18	15	11	12	14				
WC days	13	1	-13	-27	-28				
Valuation (x)									
P/E	1,568.4	(59.4)	(14.3)	57.8	24.3				
P/B	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.6				
EV/EBIDTA	28.4	17.4	30.9	12.6	8.7				
EV/mt (\$)	52.8	49.9	41.6	40.5	34.4				
Source: Company Nirmal Pana Institutional Equition Pages reh									

Source: Company, Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities Research

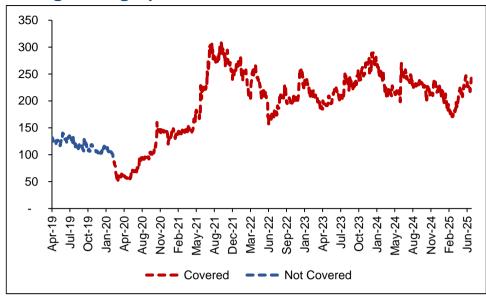


Rating track

Date	Rating	Market price (Rs)	Target price (Rs)
3 March 2020	BUY	439	801
13 April 2020	BUY	288	567
2 June 2020	BUY	292	567
17 July 2020	BUY	380	520
31 July 2020	HOLD	489	520
16 October 2020	BUY	577	801
23 October 2020	BUY	789	1,040
7 January 2021	BUY	667	1,239
22 January 2021	BUY	701	1,304
12 March 2021	BUY	725	1,304
8 April 2021	BUY	765	1,304
16 May 2021	BUY	781	1,304
25 June 2021	BUY	1,034	1,304
30 July 2021	BUY	1,302	1,825
26 Sep 2021	BUY	289	375
29 October 2021	BUY	266	355
6 January 2022	BUY	254	355
31 January 2022	BUY	244	333
23 February 2022	BUY	240	333
13 May 2022	BUY	205	300
13 June 2022	HOLD	202	220
22 July 2022	BUY	176	220
14 September 2022	BUY	216	306
21 October 2022	BUY	197	236
12 January 2023	BUY	230	274
31 January 2023	BUY	217	274
22 March 2023	BUY	203	248
11 May 2023	HOLD	209	220
29 July 2023	HOLD	209	201
22 October 2023	HOLD	258	282
26 January 2024	HOLD	269	299
15 May 2024	HOLD	219	236
20 July 2024	HOLD	238	232
24 October 24, 2024	HOLD	214	232
13 January, 2025	HOLD	208	230
27 January, 2025	HOLD	200	223
11 April 2025	HOLD	194	218
13 May 2025	HOLD	220	218
27 June 2025	HOLD	236	241



Rating track graph





DISCLOSURES

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Stock Ratings Absolute Returns

BUY > 15%

HOLD -5% to14%

SELL < -5%

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