#### India

ADD (no change)

Consensus ratings*: Buy 12	Hold 9	Sell 6
Current price:		Rs829
Target price:	R	ls1,083
Previous target:		Rs940
Up/downside:		30.6%
InCred Research / Consensus:		32.2%
Reuters:	C	CRI.NS
Bloomberg:	C	CRI IN
Market cap:	US\$6	6,075m
	Rs504	4,892m
Average daily turnover:	USS	\$12.1m
	Rs10	006.5m
Current shares o/s:	(	609.3m
Free float: *Source: Bloomberg		45.2%

#### Key changes in this note

Introduce FY26F estimates.

Roll forward our target price to Mar 2025F.



# **Container Corp of India Ltd**

### Despite hiccups, long-term story is intact

- Concor's originating cargo (TEU km) rose by 14% yoy in 3QFY24. We expect its originating cargo to rise by 47% over FY24F-26F.
- The delay in passing on the busy season surcharge dented 3QFY24 EBITDA margin. We feel this will not dent Concor's volume or margin over FY25F-26F.
- We roll forward our valuation to Mar 2025F. We maintain ADD rating on Concor with a higher target price of Rs1,083 (vs. Rs940 earlier).

#### Strong volume growth performance

Container Corporation of India or Concor's originating cargo (TEU km) rose by 14% yoy in 3QFY24 (vs. a 17% yoy rise in 2QFY24). The strong pick-up was facilitated by commencement of the Rewari to Dadri stretch of the Dedicated Freight Corridor or DFC. Management gave guidance of a 10% yoy volume growth in FY24F. Volume growth in 9MFY24 was 6% yoy & thus management expects 4QFY24F volume growth of 20% yoy. We feel it's achievable as Indian Railways' container cargo grew 19% yoy in Aug-Oct 2023.

#### Delay in passing on busy season surcharge dents EBITDA margin

Sales (Rs22bn) rose by 11% yoy due to a 14% rise in originating volume (TEU km). Handled cargo rose by 6% yoy. The gross profit margin (41.3%) declined by 160bp yoy and 379bp qoq, despite a 56% yoy rise in double-stack rakes. Concor stated that this was because of the 10% busy season surcharge on containers implemented by Indian Railways from Oct 2023. Concor has started passing it on to the customers from 11 Nov 2023. Rail freight expenses were at 55% of revenue in FY23. We believe that a 10% rise in rail freight cost will not dent Concor's volume or margin in the medium term. Empty loss was flat yoy (Rs1.34bn), despite a 14% rise in originating cargo (TEU km). Opex (ex-rail freight expenses) rose by 2% yoy. Despite the weak gross profit margin, EBITDA margin (21.6%) rose by 20bp. Land License Fee (LLF) booked was Rs0.7bn (net of reversal of Rs0.36bn). We have adjusted our EBITDA calculation to factor in Rs1.1bn LLF. Management gave guidance of Rs4.5bn LLF for FY25F.

#### Roll forward our valuation to Mar 2025F; maintain ADD rating

We reduced our FY24F EBITDA estimate by 14%, in line with 9MFY24 performance, and cut our FY25F EBITDA estimate by 34% due to the delay in connecting Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) to the DFC. We have introduced FY26F estimates and factored in sales/ originating cargo/ EBITDA growth of 51%/ 47%/ 61%, respectively, over FY24F-26F. We roll forward our valuation to Mar 2025F, valuing Concor at 18x EV/EBITDA (in line with the five-year average EV/EBITDA of 18.3x). We maintain our ADD rating on Concor with a higher target price of Rs1,083 (vs. Rs940 earlier). Downside risk: A sharp rise in rail freight costs.

Financial Summary	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26F
Revenue (Rsm)	77,116	82,438	89,338	103,120	134,663
Operating EBITDA (Rsm)	18,655	18,433	20,255	24,060	32,629
Net Profit (Rsm)	10,522	11,715	13,432	16,981	23,774
Core EPS (Rs)	19.1	19.2	22.0	27.9	39.0
Core EPS Growth	60.1%	0.7%	14.6%	26.4%	40.0%
FD Core P/E (x)	43.41	43.10	37.59	29.73	21.24
DPS (Rs)	9.0	11.0	6.6	0.0	11.7
Dividend Yield	1.09%	1.33%	0.80%	0.00%	1.41%
EV/EBITDA (x)	25.52	25.74	22.90	18.57	13.15
P/FCFE (x)	43.29	34.45	34.81	29.25	20.34
Net Gearing	(26.8%)	(27.1%)	(33.6%)	(41.9%)	(48.8%)
P/BV (x)	4.68	4.49	4.14	3.64	3.25
ROE	11.1%	10.6%	11.5%	13.0%	16.2%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			(14.82%)	(33.78%)	
InCred Research/Consensus EPS (x)					

**Research Analyst(s)** 



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### Despite hiccups, long-term story is intact

(%)	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24	2QFY24	3QFY24
Indian Railways' containers	45.9	22.5	10.7	8.2	11.6	9.1	7.9	7.3	0.9	16.5	na
EXIM	34.1	15.0	3.6	(0.1)	2.1	5.5	6.3	8.9	3.7	20.7	na
Domestic	83.2	41.0	26.3	25.8	33.7	16.4	10.8	4.7	(4.2)	9.0	na
Concor containers	40.3	20.2	5.6	(3.7)	(2.3)	(7.3)	(9.9)	(5.0)	(2.0)	17.4	14.1
EXIM	31.8	13.8	(0.3)	(8.5)	(10.0)	(12.8)	(17.1)	(11.4)	(3.2)	19.7	19.4
Domestic	77.1	43.1	26.3	9.4	22.7	8.8	9.9	9.7	0.9	12.0	2.8

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

(Rsm)	3QFY24	3QFY23	% Chg	2QFY24	% Chg
Net Sales	22,051	19,884	11	21,904	1
Rail Freight	12,946	11,356	14	12,030	8
Other opex	1,118	1,077	4	1,052	6
Overheads	3,233	3,188	1	3,279	-1
EBITDA	4,754	4,264	11	5,543	-14
Depreciation	1,543	1,357	14	1,486	4
Interest	175	142	23	147	19
Other income	1,007	1,136	-11	1,025	-2
Тах	974	936	4	1,230	-21
Adjusted PAT	3,069	2,965	3	3,705	-17
Extraordinary income	276	0		-128	
Reported PAT	3,344	2,965	13	3,577	-7
EBITDA margin (%)	21.6	21.4		25.3	

(Rsm)	3QFY24	3QFY23	% Chg	2QFY24	% Chg
EXIM					
Revenue	14,365	12,697	13	14,438	-*
EBIT before empty losses	3,550	3,323	7	3,862	-8
Empty loss/ TEU (Rs/ TEU)	391	444	-12	324	2
EBIT post empty losses	3,197	2,953	8	3,548	-1
% margin	22	23		25	
Volume (kTEU)	903	834	8	970	-
Tariff (Rs/ TEU originating)	27,354	27,299	0	26,687	
Originating volume (kTEU)	525	465	13	541	-
Originating as % of overall	58	56		56	
Domestic					
Revenue	7,687	7,187	7	7,467	
EBIT before empty losses	1,725	1,398	23	1,698	
Empty loss/ TEU (Rs/ TEU)	3,980	3,859	3	3,322	2
EBIT post empty losses	737	428	72	831	-1
% margin	10	6		11	
Volume (kTEU)	248	251	-1	261	-
Tariff (Rs/ TEU originating)	69,795	65,649	6	69,782	
Originating volume (kTEU)	110	109	1	107	
Originating as % of overall	44	44		41	

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

#### Figure 4: Lead distance and double-stacked cargo for the EXIM segment 3QFY24 3QFY23 % Chg 2QFY24 % Chg EXIM Lead distance (km) 705 715 676 6 1 Empty losses as % overall revenue 22 25 29 1 Double stacking (rakes) 1,376 880 56 1,556 -12 Double stack as % of overall EXIM Originating 42 30 46

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

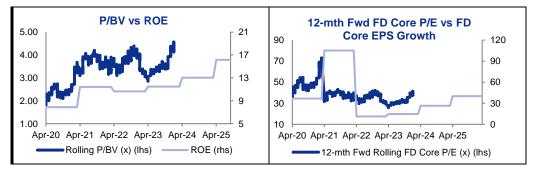


#### Figure 6: Our revised earnings estimates

(Rs bn)	FY24F	-	FY25	-	FY26F
	Old	New	Old	New	
Sales	94.6	89.3	133.7	103.1	134.7
% change		(6)		(23)	
EBITDA	23.6	20.3	36.5	24.1	32.6
% change		(14)		(34)	
PAT	15.8	13.4	25.6	17.0	23.8
% change		(15)		(34)	

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#### **BY THE NUMBERS**



#### Profit & Loss

(Rs mn)	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26F
Total Net Revenues	77,116	82,438	89,338	103,120	134,663
Gross Profit	26,093	26,706	28,986	34,638	45,889
Operating EBITDA	18,655	18,433	20,255	24,060	32,629
Depreciation And Amortisation	(5,298)	(5,541)	(5,693)	(6,170)	(6,648)
Operating EBIT	13,357	12,892	14,563	17,890	25,981
Financial Income/(Expense)	2,086	2,670	3,279	4,666	5,599
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.					
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)					
Profit Before Tax (pre-El)	15,442	15,562	17,842	22,556	31,580
Exceptional Items	(1,473)				
Pre-tax Profit	13,969	15,562	17,842	22,556	31,580
Taxation	(3,447)	(3,847)	(4,410)	(5,575)	(7,806)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	10,522	11,715	13,432	16,981	23,774
Minority Interests					
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	10,522	11,715	13,432	16,981	23,774
Recurring Net Profit	11,632	11,715	13,432	16,981	23,774
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	11,632	11,715	13,432	16,981	23,774

Cash Flow					
(Rs mn)	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26F
EBITDA	18,655	18,433	20,255	24,060	32,629
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	(67)	(2,437)	1,379	109	400
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense	(1,473)				
Other Operating Cashflow					
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	2,086	2,670	3,279	4,666	5,599
Tax Paid	(3,447)	(3,847)	(4,410)	(5,575)	(7,806)
Cashflow From Operations	15,753	14,819	20,503	23,260	30,822
Сарех	(4,186)	(96)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries					
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments					
Other Investing Cashflow	96	(70)			
Cash Flow From Investing	(4,090)	(165)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)
Debt Raised/(repaid)					
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares					
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(6,580)	(8,043)	(4,835)		(8,559)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow	(937)	(5,011)	805	1,024	1,430
Cash Flow From Financing	(7,517)	(13,054)	(4,030)	1,024	(7,129)
Total Cash Generated	4,146	1,600	10,473	18,284	17,693
Free Cashflow To Equity	11,664	14,654	14,503	17,260	24,822
Free Cashflow To Firm	12,210	15,224	15,112	17,260	24,822

### BY THE NUMBERS...cont'd

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(Rs mn)	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26
Total Cash And Equivalents	28,879	30,479	40,952	58,211	75,90
Total Debtors	1,761	2,131	2,309	2,666	3,48
Inventories	307	372	372	372	37
Total Other Current Assets	9,147	10,361	11,520	13,297	17,36
Total Current Assets	40,094	43,343	55,153	74,546	97,12
Fixed Assets	73,567	75,038	75,345	75,174	74,52
Total Investments	14,356	14,425	14,425	14,425	14,42
Intangible Assets					
Total Other Non-Current Assets					
Total Non-current Assets	87,923	89,463	89,770	89,600	88,95
Short-term Debt					
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	13,152	12,506	15,222	17,464	22,74
Other Current Liabilities	1,579	1,437	1,437	1,437	1,43
Total Current Liabilities	14,732	13,943	16,659	18,901	24,18
Total Long-term Debt					
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	5,512	6,413	6,413	6,413	6,41
Total Non-current Liabilities	5,512	6,413	6,413	6,413	6,41
Total Provisions					
Total Liabilities	20,244	20,356	23,072	25,314	30,59
Shareholders Equity	107,773	112,450	121,852	138,832	155,47
Minority Interests Total Equity		112,450	121,852		155,47
Key Ratios					
	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26
Revenue Growth	19.0%	6.9%	8.4%	15.4%	30.69
Operating EBITDA Growth	49.8%	(1.2%)	9.9%	18.8%	35.69
Operating EBITDA Margin	24.2%	22.4%	22.7%	23.3%	24.29
Net Cash Per Share (Rs)	47.40	50.02	67.21	95.54	124.5
BVPS (Rs)	176.88	184.56	199.99	227.86	255.0
Gross Interest Cover	24.47	22.62	23.91		
Effective Tax Rate	24.7%	24.7%	24.7%	24.7%	24.79
	4 = = = = 4		00.00/		30.09
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	45.7%	57.2%	30.0%		
Net Dividend Payout Ratio Accounts Receivables Days	45.7% 7.85	57.2% 8.62	30.0% 9.07	8.80	
Accounts Receivables Days Inventory Days	7.85 1.95			8.80 1.98	8.3
Accounts Receivables Days Inventory Days Accounts Payables Days	7.85	8.62	9.07 2.25 83.85		8.3 1.5 82.6
Accounts Receivables Days Inventory Days	7.85 1.95	8.62 2.22	9.07 2.25	1.98	8.3 1.5 82.6
Accounts Receivables Days Inventory Days Accounts Payables Days ROIC (%) ROCE (%)	7.85 1.95 90.74 19.5% 15.2%	8.62 2.22 84.02 18.4% 14.7%	9.07 2.25 83.85 19.7% 15.7%	1.98 87.11 24.5% 17.3%	8.3 1.5 82.6 35.8 21.5
Accounts Receivables Days Inventory Days Accounts Payables Days ROIC (%)	7.85 1.95 90.74 19.5%	8.62 2.22 84.02 18.4%	9.07 2.25 83.85 19.7%	1.98 87.11 24.5%	8.3 1.5 82.6 35.89 21.59
Accounts Receivables Days Inventory Days Accounts Payables Days ROIC (%) ROCE (%)	7.85 1.95 90.74 19.5% 15.2%	8.62 2.22 84.02 18.4% 14.7%	9.07 2.25 83.85 19.7% 15.7%	1.98 87.11 24.5% 17.3%	8.3 1.5 82.6 35.8 21.5 10.4
Accounts Receivables Days Inventory Days Accounts Payables Days ROIC (%) ROCE (%) Return On Average Assets	7.85 1.95 90.74 19.5% 15.2%	8.62 2.22 84.02 18.4% 14.7%	9.07 2.25 83.85 19.7% 15.7%	1.98 87.11 24.5% 17.3%	8.3 1.5 82.6 35.89 21.59
Accounts Receivables Days Inventory Days Accounts Payables Days ROIC (%) ROCE (%) Return On Average Assets	7.85 1.95 90.74 19.5% 15.2% 7.9%	8.62 2.22 84.02 18.4% 14.7% 6.9%	9.07 2.25 83.85 19.7% 15.7% 7.3%	1.98 87.11 24.5% 17.3% 8.0%	8.3 1.5 82.6 35.8 21.5 10.4

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been engaged in market making activity for the subject company	NO	NO

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