Century Plyboards



India

ADD (no change)

Consensus ratings*: Buy 18	Hold 1 Sell 1
Current price:	Rs595
Target price:	Rs754
Previous target:	Rs754
Up/downside:	26.7%
InCred Research / Consensus:	1.7%
Reuters:	CNTP.NS
Bloomberg:	CPBI IN
Market cap:	US\$1,636m
	Rs132,260m
Average daily turnover:	US\$1.5m
	Rs124.7m
Current shares o/s:	222.2m
Free float:	27.0%
*Source: Bloomberg	

Key changes in this note

- > Revenue raised by 1%/7% for FY23F/24F.
- EBITDA revised by -3% to 1% for FY23F/24F.
- PAT revised by -3% to 1% for FY23F/24F.



		Source. L	bloomberg
rice performance	1M	ЗМ	12M
hactute (0/)	(47)	(2 E)	(40.4)

Price performance	1M	ЗМ	12M
Absolute (%)	(4.7)	(3.5)	(12.4)
Relative (%)	(10.7)	(7.2)	(14.0)

Promoters	73.0
Kotak Debt Hybrid Fund	4.1
Dsp Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund	2.9

% held

Timely capex execution critical going ahead

- Demand improving in the latter half of 2Q led to revenue/EBITDA/PAT beat vs. our/Bloomberg consensus estimates. MDF/PB EBITDA margins declined qoq.
- CPIL plans a lifetime-high capex of ~Rs16bn across all its four products over FY23F-25F. Better sales mix will lead to higher margins and ROCE by FY26F.
- Stock can consolidate, given capex execution risks (most capacities to start by Mar 2024F) and uncertainty on MDF pricing/margins next fiscal. Retain ADD.

2QFY23 fares much better than expectations despite high base

Century Plyboards India (CPIL) posted 2QFY23 revenue/EBITDA/PAT Rs9bn/Rs1.5bn/Rs1bn, +11%/-6%/+6% yoy, beating our estimates by 10%/20%/31% and Bloomberg consensus estimates by 3%/9%/22%, respectively. This was despite an unfavourable high base quarter last fiscal (1QFY22 saw Covid 2.0 impact). Old high-cost raw material inventory and incremental inflation led to a fall in gross margin to 45.8%, down 240bp yoy and 140bp gog. EBITDA margin fell to 16.7%, down 315bp yoy while flat gog. Segment-wise, plywood and laminate revenue grew by over 10% yoy while medium density fibre (MDF) and particle board (PB) revenue rose by over 20% yoy. Adjusted EBITDA margin for plywood (ex-subsidiary investment write-off) and laminate stood at 14% and 17.4%, respectively, up sharply by 350-400bp gog. However, MDF/PB EBITDA margins fell sharply to 25.2%/28.5%, respectively, down 750-950bp qoq, due to high input cost and a short MDF plant shutdown in 2Q. CPIL recognized impairment loss of Rs470m relating to its Myanmar arm (political developments led to discontinuation of operations) in 2Q. It plans to divest 100% of subsidiary equity stake for ~Rs100m by Mar 2023F. Also, an earlier entry tax provision of Rs142.5m was reversed and booked as other income in 2Q.

Gross block to more than double over FY22-FY25F

CPIL is undergoing a very large capacity expansion for plywood, laminates, MDF and PB, given most existing capacities are running fully. It plans to incur capex of Rs16.5bn (plywood: 60k cbm, Rs750m; laminate: 4m sheets, Rs2.1bn; MDF: 430k cbm, Rs8.2bn; PB: 360k cbm, Rs5.5bn) over FY22-25F. This implies Mar 2022 gross block of Rs10.6bn to more than double over next 2.5 years and potential incremental revenue of ~Rs25bn assuming asset turnover of 1.5x. CPIL gave guidance of sustainable consolidated EBITDA margin range of 16-18% (excluding cyclical fluctuations) over the next five years.

Change in our estimates; roll out FY25F

We incorporate 1H actuals and revise revenue/EBITDA/PAT by -3 to +7% for FY23F/24F. We cut MDF/PB EBITDA margin to 22.5% over FY24F-25F. Consolidated EBITDA margin cut to 16.8%/16.3% from 17.5%/17.2% earlier for FY23F/24F, respectively.

Valuation and risks

Stock can consolidate over the next one year, given capex execution risks and uncertainty on MDF pricing/margins. Retain ADD with a TP of Rs754. Downside risk: Capex delay.

Financial Summary	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
Revenue (Rsm)	21,136	30,009	37,071	44,260	53,714
Operating EBITDA (Rsm)	3,354	5,346	6,209	7,210	9,019
Net Profit (Rsm)	1,921	3,253	3,856	4,654	5,856
Core EPS (Rs)	9.0	14.6	18.5	20.9	26.4
Core EPS Growth	4.3%	62.0%	26.1%	13.5%	25.8%
FD Core P/E (x)	68.83	40.66	34.30	28.42	22.58
DPS (Rs)	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.0
Dividend Yield	0.17%	0.25%	0.25%	0.25%	0.34%
EV/EBITDA (x)	39.16	24.64	21.41	18.88	14.43
P/FCFE (x)	1,678.06	185.85	103.85	212.86	72.17
Net Gearing	(7.1%)	(3.4%)	3.7%	16.6%	(7.4%)
P/BV (x)	10.46	8.45	6.90	5.63	4.58
ROE	17.2%	23.0%	23.6%	21.8%	22.4%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			(4.52%)	1.10%	
InCred Research/Consensus EPS (x)					

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

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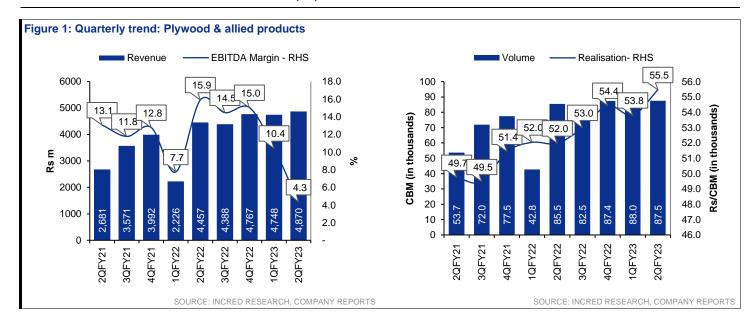
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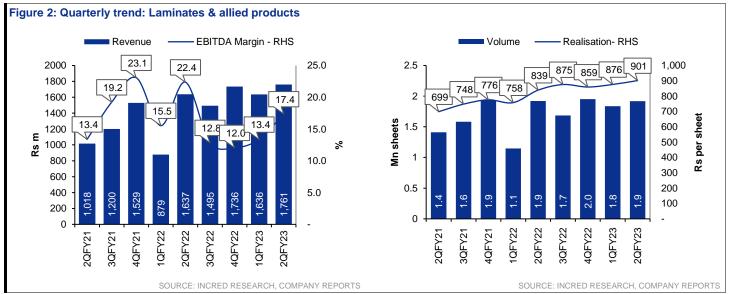


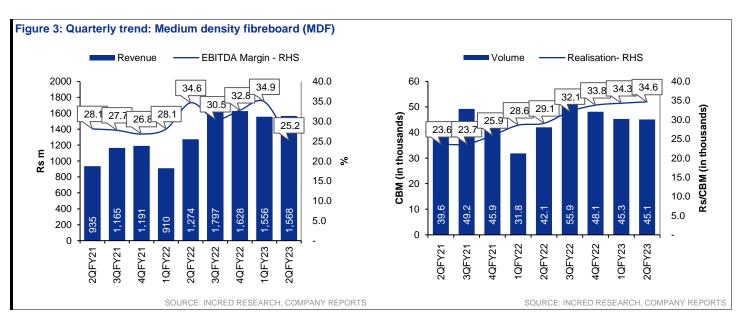
2QFY23 earnings-call highlights

- Demand trend: Given repeated new launches of residential and commercial
 properties, CPIL expects wood panel demand to recover and strengthen over
 2HFY23F-FY25F. The company has been consistently gaining market share
 in plywood and MDF segments. However, plywood segment continues to see
 down trading and given a high base in 2H last fiscal, revenue growth for the
 segment is expected to be in high single digits yoy in 2HFY23F.
- **Guidance:** Management maintained its revenue growth guidance of 20% yoy for FY23F. Segment-wise, plywood sales volume and revenue growth are expected at 15% and 20% yoy, laminate at 15% each, MDF 20% each and PB sales volume and revenue growth at 10% yoy and 20% yoy, respectively. EBITDA margin guidance too was maintained for plywood 13 to 15%, laminate 14 to 16%, and MDF/PB at 25% for FY23F.
- Price hike and input cost: Raw material prices remain elevated for timber while they declined for paper and chemical segments. The company did not take any price hike in 2QFY23 and expects gross margin to be better in 2HFY23F vs.1HFY23.
- **Timber availability:** Given remunerative timber prices, Indian farmers have opted to increase timber plantations. This should improve timber availability in the next fiscal year, leading to lower input cost, as per management.
- Import prices: Imported MDF (US\$220/cbm excluding freight and related charges) and PB (US\$120-150/cbm excluding freight and related charges) prices remain lower by 10-15% as compared to Indian prices. Imports have been increasing in India, given declining freight prices post Covid-19 pandemic.
- MDF margins: Timber prices stayed elevated during the quarter and have increased by 10-12% in 1HFY23. The MDF plant also had a scheduled maintenance shutdown for 10 days leading to a decline in capacity utilization to 80% vs. 89% qoq in 2Q. Hence, MDF division saw gross/EBITDA margins decline qoq, which are expected to recover back to 28-30% in 2HFY23F.
- **PB margins:** Boston Consulting Group (BCG) has now been engaged for efficiency improvement in the PB division. Consultancy cost impacted EBITDA margin by 2-2.5% for the quarter. This spending will continue in 2HFY23F.
- Capex update: The brownfield MDF expansion at the existing Hoshiarpur plant is on track and 350 cbm/day of capacity is expected to start production by Dec 2022F. Land acquisition for the new plywood unit of 75k cbm has been delayed and the plant would come on stream in FY24F. The company announced a fresh greenfield plant for PB with a capacity of 1,200 cbm/day at a capex outlay of Rs5.5bn in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The land acquisition has already been completed and the plant is expected to be ready for commercial production by Mar 2025F.
- Cash conversion cycle: Net working capital cycle improved to 59 days of TTM sales, down 3 days vs. Mar 2022. Inventory was at 51 days while receivables were at 38 days of TTM sales.
- Cash flow: OCF/FCF was at Rs2.2bn/Rs1.2bn, respectively, in 1HFY23. Net cash as at end-Jun 2022 stood at Rs1.8bn. Net cash and equivalents stood at Rs1.7bn (adjusted for buyers' credit).











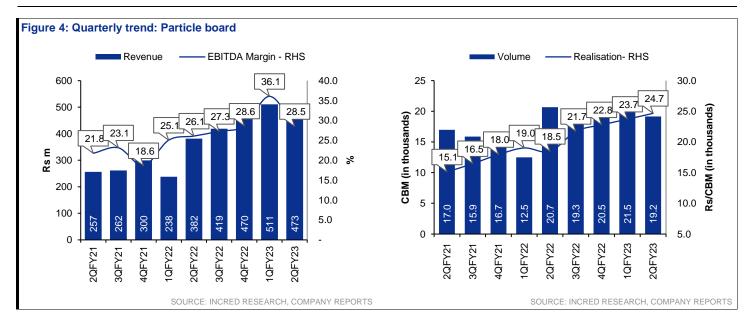


Figure 5: 2QFY23 results snapshot									
YE Mar (Rs m)	2QFY23	2QFY22	yoy (%)	1QFY23	qoq (%)	1HFY23	1HFY22	yoy(%)	
Revenue	9,002	8,083	11.4	8,815	2.1	17,817	12,572	41.7	
EBITDA	1,507	1,607	(6.2)	1,453	3.7	2,960	2,219	33.4	
EBITDA margin (%)	16.7	19.9	-314 bp	16.5	26 bp	16.6	17.7	-104 bp	
Adj. PAT	1,090	1,031	5.7	965	13.0	2,055	1,370	50.0	
Diluted EPS (Rs)	4.9	4.6		4.3		9.2	8.5		
·	SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORT								

Figure 6: 2QFY23 segmental results	snapshot				
YE Mar	2QFY23	2QFY22	yoy (%)	1QFY23	qoq (%)
Revenue (Rs m)					,
Plywood & allied products	4,870	4,457	9.3	4,748	2.6
Laminates & allied products	1,761	1,637	7.6	1,636	7.7
Medium density fibreboard (MDF)	1,568	1,274	23.0	1,556	0.7
Particle board	473	382	24.1	511	(7.3)
Container freight station services	175	176	(0.1)	207	(15.3)
Others	154	157	(1.7)	158	(2.5)
Total	9,002	8,083	11.4	8,800	2.3
EBIT (Rs m)					
Plywood & allied products	189	702	(73.1)	501	(62.3)
Laminates & allied products	300	351	(14.4)	219	36.8
Medium density fibreboard (MDF)	377	397	(5.0)	528	(28.6)
Particle board	130	88	46.5	179	(27.5)
Container freight station services	19	5	261.5	32	(41.4)
Others	9	35	(74.3)	15	(39.5)
Total	1,023	1,577	(35.2)	1,473	(30.6)
EBIT margin (%)					
Plywood & allied products	3.9	15.7	-1,187 bp	10.5	-667 bp
Laminates & allied products	17.0	21.4	-438 bp	13.4	363 bp
Medium density fibreboard (MDF)	24.0	31.1	-709 bp	33.9	-988 bp
Particle board	27.4	23.2	419 bp	35.0	-761 bp
Container freight station services	10.7	3.0	776 bp	15.5	-478 bp
Others	5.8	22.1	-1,630 bp	9.3	-353 bp
Total	11.4	19.5	-815 bp	16.7	-535 bp
		SOURCE: I	NCRED RESEAR	CH, COMPAN'	Y REPORTS

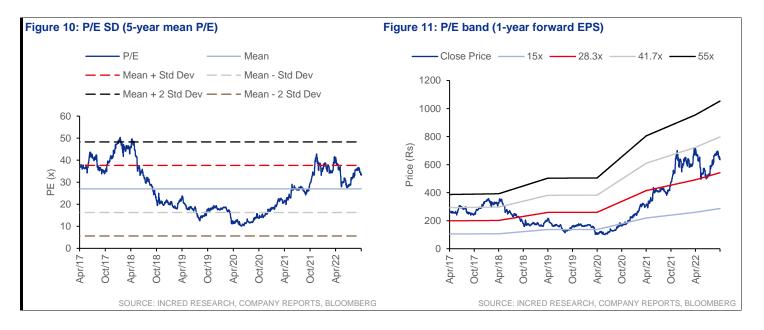
Figure 7: Actuals	s vs. our estimates			Figure 8: Actuals vs. Bloomberg consensus					
Rs m	2QFY23A	2QFY23A	Var (%)	Rs mn	2QFY23A	2QFY23C	Var (%)		
Revenue	9,002	8,216	9.6	Revenue	9,002	8,704	3.4		
EBITDA	1,507	1,259	19.7	EBITDA	1,507	1,389	8.5		
EBITDA margin (%)	16.7	15.3	142 bp	EBITDA margin (%)	16.7	16.0	78 bp		
Adj. PAT	1,090	829	31.4	Adj. PAT	1,090	893	22.0		
	SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH EST	TIMATES, COMP	ANY REPORTS		SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMF	ANY REPORTS	, BLOOMBERG		



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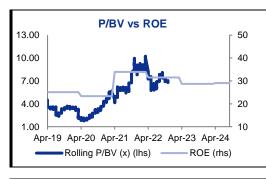
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	New estimates			Ole	Old estimates			Change (%)		
	FY23F	FY24F	FY25F	FY23F	FY24F	FY25F	FY23F	FY24F	FY25F	
Revenue	37,071	44,260	53,714	36,616	41,415	NA	1.2	6.9	NA	
EBITDA	6,209	7,210	9,019	6,408	7,123	NA	-3.1	1.2	NA	
Adjusted consol. PAT	4,183	4,654	5,856	4,287	4,594	NA	-2.4	1.3	NA	
EPS	18.8	20.9	26.4	19.3	20.7	NA	-2.4	1.3	NA	
EBITDA margin (%)	16.8	16.3	16.8	17.5	17.2	NA	-75 bp	-91 bp	NA	





BY THE NUMBERS





Profit & Loss					
(Rs mn)	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
Total Net Revenues	21,136	30,009	37,071	44,260	53,714
Gross Profit	10,542	14,792	17,331	20,027	23,500
Operating EBITDA	3,354	5,346	6,209	7,210	9,019
Depreciation And Amortisation	(626)	(675)	(784)	(1,017)	(1,312)
Operating EBIT	2,728	4,670	5,426	6,193	7,707
Financial Income/(Expense)	(99)	8	(54)	(194)	(232)
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.					
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	98	124	110	125	131
Profit Before Tax (pre-EI)	2,727	4,802	5,482	6,123	7,606
Exceptional Items	(118)		(328)		
Pre-tax Profit	2,609	4,802	5,155	6,123	7,606
Taxation	(688)	(1,549)	(1,299)	(1,470)	(1,749)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	1,921	3,253	3,856	4,654	5,856
Minority Interests					
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	1,921	3,253	3,856	4,654	5,856
Recurring Net Profit	2,008	3,253	4,101	4,654	5,856
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	2,008	3,253	4,101	4,654	5,856

Cash Flow					
(Rs mn)	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
EBITDA	3,354	5,346	6,209	7,210	9,019
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	631	(1,714)	(1,188)	(922)	(1,538)
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow	(54)	157	(271)	(69)	(101)
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	99	(8)	54	194	232
Tax Paid	(441)	(1,092)	(1,299)	(1,470)	(1,749)
Cashflow From Operations	3,589	2,689	3,505	4,943	5,863
Capex	(600)	(2,302)	(4,350)	(7,605)	(3,110)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries	84	225			
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments	(1,746)	(639)	1,000	1,200	
Other Investing Cashflow	24	36	119	83	80
Cash Flow From Investing	(2,238)	(2,681)	(3,231)	(6,322)	(3,030)
Debt Raised/(repaid)	(1,272)	703	1,000	2,000	(1,000)
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares					
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid		(223)	(333)	(334)	(445)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow	(110)	(95)	(172)	(277)	(312)
Cash Flow From Financing	(1,382)	386	494	1,389	(1,758)
Total Cash Generated	(31)	394	768	10	1,075
Free Cashflow To Equity	79	712	1,274	621	1,833
Free Cashflow To Firm	1,243	(88)	101	(1,656)	2,520

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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BY THE NUMBERS...cont'd

Balance Sheet					
(Rs mn)	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
Total Cash And Equivalents	1,860	2,493	2,261	1,071	2,146
Total Debtors	2,970	3,489	4,310	4,850	5,886
Inventories	3,302	4,895	6,094	7,276	8,830
Total Other Current Assets	758	771	952	1,137	1,380
Total Current Assets	8,890	11,648	13,616	14,334	18,242
Fixed Assets	6,594	6,737	9,951	15,538	20,137
Total Investments	1,169	1,547	1,547	1,547	1,547
Intangible Assets					
Total Other Non-Current Assets	1,217	2,215	2,567	3,567	767
Total Non-current Assets	8,980	10,499	14,065	20,653	22,451
Short-term Debt	727	1,961	2,959	4,956	
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	2,139	2,545	3,047	3,638	4,415
Other Current Liabilities	1,797	1,520	2,031	2,425	2,943
Total Current Liabilities	4,664	6,026	8,037	11,019	7,358
Total Long-term Debt	238	3	5	8	
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	319	301	301	301	301
Total Non-current Liabilities	557	304	305	308	301
Total Provisions		168	168	168	168
Total Liabilities	5,221	6,498	8,511	11,495	7,827
Shareholders Equity	12,649	15,649	19,171	23,491	28,903
Minority Interests		<u> </u>			
Total Equity	12,649	15,649	19,171	23,491	28,903

Key Ratios					
	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
Revenue Growth	(7.4%)	42.0%	23.5%	19.4%	21.4%
Operating EBITDA Growth	(4.1%)	59.4%	16.2%	16.1%	25.1%
Operating EBITDA Margin	15.9%	17.8%	16.8%	16.3%	16.8%
Net Cash Per Share (Rs)	4.03	2.38	(3.16)	(17.52)	9.66
BVPS (Rs)	56.93	70.43	86.29	105.73	130.09
Gross Interest Cover	25.27	48.60	31.46	22.32	24.66
Effective Tax Rate	26.4%	32.3%	25.2%	24.0%	23.0%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	8.1%	6.9%	6.1%	5.5%	5.9%
Accounts Receivables Days	47.94	39.28	38.39	37.77	36.48
Inventory Days	117.88	98.31	101.60	100.69	97.28
Accounts Payables Days	64.60	56.19	51.70	50.34	48.64
ROIC (%)	22.8%	42.8%	38.6%	32.9%	29.3%
ROCE (%)	20.6%	30.4%	27.7%	24.6%	27.0%
Return On Average Assets	16.5%	24.0%	22.2%	20.2%	20.7%

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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

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