

Transport | India | June 14, 2021

InCred Equities

India

REDUCE (previously HOLD)

Consensus ratings*: Buy 13	Hold 1 Sell 0
Current price:	Rs282
Target price:	Rs242
Previous target:	Rs225
Up/downside:	-14.2%
InCred Research / Consensus:	-21.0%
Reuters:	VRLL.NS
Bloomberg:	VRLL IN
Market cap:	US\$340m
	Rs24,917m
Average daily turnover:	US\$1.4m
	Rs101.8m
Current shares o/s:	88.3m
Free float: *Source: Bloomberg	32.0%

Key changes in this note

- ▶ Increase FY22F EBITDA by 28%
- Increase FY23F EBITDA by 4%



VRL Logistics Ltd

Multiple pressures likely in 2HFY22F

- 4QFY21 EBITDA of Rs956m was 39% of FY21 EBITDA, ahead of our Rs686m estimate due to strong tariff and volume for the goods transport (GT) segment.
- We raise our target price to Rs242 (from Rs225) considering the strong performance in 2HFY21 but downgrade the stock to Reduce from Hold.

Tariff hike and volume growth in GT segment drives results

Sales (Rs6bn)/ EBITDA (Rs956m) were 14%/ 39% ahead of our estimates. Sales grew 21% yoy driven by 29% yoy growth in GT segment sales (Rs5.4bn). Bus segment sales (Rs0.56bn) declined 20% yoy. Despite a 21% rise in fuel expense, EBITDA grew 69% yoy driven by 12%/ 15% yoy rise in GT segment tariff/ volume and 7% reduction in staff cost. During 4QFY21, VRL bought back 2m shares at Rs253.36/share (Rs519m including transaction costs). The shares so bought back were fully extinguished by 24 Mar 2021.

Highest GT segment volume growth in last 24 quarters

EBITDA of GT segment (89% of VRL's sales) grew 102% yoy to Rs970m driven by 12% yoy tariff growth and 15% yoy volume growth (vs. 2.5% average yoy growth in FY16-20). Operating expense of the GT segment grew 19% yoy, implying just 4% yoy rise in opex/ volume despite ~25% estimated rise in the GT segment's fuel expense. This was on account of better asset sweating and cost control measures like 7% yoy reduction in staff cost. Bus transport (BT) segment sales declined 20% vov while volumes declined 8% vov. As a result, VRL reported EBITDA loss of Rs44m for the BT segment.

Multiple pressures likely on EBITDA margin from 2HFY22F

We expect GT tariff to decline by 5% over FY21-23F due to the impending commissioning of the railway dedicated freight corridor (DFC) in 2HFY22. Further, VRL hiked tariff ~12% in 2QFY21, much higher than the average tariff hike p.a. (4%) over FY15-20. VRL mentioned that 1QFY22 is likely to be weak due to the second COVID wave and management is focussed on volumes in FY22F. Despite the 15% yoy volume growth in GT segment, employee cost declined 7% yoy in 4QFY21. We expect employee cost to increase in FY22F due to likely salary hike.

Downgrade to Reduce with higher target price of Rs242

We raise our FY22F/ 23F EBITDA by 28%/ 4% to factor in (a) strong pricing in the GT segment in FY21 and (b) reduction in staff expenses. We raise our TP to Rs242, from Rs225, valuing the core business at 9x EV/EBITDA FY23F (20% discount to its median EV/EBITDA multiple of the last three years) due to likely decline in margin in FY22F-23F. We downgrade the stock to Reduce from Hold post the 14% rise in the current market price in the last three months. While VRL is the industry leader in India's road logistics sector, we are cautious on the sector due to the impending risk from the DFC. An upside risk is a delay in the commissioning of the DFC which could boost VRL's cargo volume in FY22F.

Financial Summary	Mar-19A	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F
Revenue (Rsm)	21,095	21,185	17,629	20,581	22,225
Operating EBITDA (Rsm)	2,440	2,983	2,475	2,765	2,827
Net Profit (Rsm)	919	901	451	517	482
Core EPS (Rs)	10.2	10.0	5.0	5.8	5.5
Core EPS Growth	(0.2%)	(1.9%)	(49.4%)	15.9%	(6.7%)
FD Core P/E (x)	27.72	28.27	55.91	48.24	51.68
DPS (Rs)	5.5	7.0	4.0	10.0	5.0
Dividend Yield	1.95%	2.48%	1.42%	3.55%	1.77%
EV/EBITDA (x)	10.73	9.83	11.63	10.18	9.60
P/FCFE (x)	62.48	5.84	16.23	24.45	16.95
Net Gearing	19.7%	71.5%	64.9%	57.8%	39.1%
P/BV (x)	3.94	4.13	4.17	4.45	4.41
ROE	14.8%	14.3%	7.4%	8.9%	8.6%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates				2,046.72%	33.15%
InCred Research/Consensus EPS (x)				0.45	0.37

SOURCES: INCRED RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS. PRICED AS AT 14 JUN 2021

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Multiple pressures likely in 2HFY22F

Figure 1: Result update

		Quarter en	ded		
(Rs. m)	4QFY21	4QFY20	% Chg	3QFY21	% Chg
Net Sales	6,001	4,978	21	5,634	7
Freight, handling cost	4,106	3,388	21	3,733	10
Other costs	939	1,024	-8	913	3
EBITDA	956	566	69	988	-3
Other income	29	24	18	51	-44
PBIDT	985	591	67	1,039	-5
Depreciation	380	453	-16	411	-7
Interest	92	105	-13	83	10
РВТ	513	33	1,467	545	-6
Tax	141	11		148	
Reported PAT	372	21	1,637	397	-6
EBITDA margin (%)	15.9	11.4		17.5	

Figure 2: Segment-wise breakdown

(Rsm)	4QFY21	4QFY20	% Chg	3QFY21	% Chg
Sales	6,001	4,978	21	5,634	7
Goods transport	5,358	4,165	29	5,010	7
Bus transport	561	706	-20	521	8
Others	82	107	-23	103	-20
EBITDA	956	566	69	988	-3
Goods transport	970	479	102	975	-1
Bus transport	-44	65	-168	47	-194
Others	31	22	39	-35	-189
EBITDA margin %	16	11		18	
Goods transport	18	12		19	
Bus transport	-8	9		9	
Others	38	21		-34	
% of EBITDA from goods transport	101	85		99	

SOURCES: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Figure 3: 4QFY21 key operating metri		
(%)	YoY	QoQ
Growth in Goods transport tariff	12	2
Growth in Goods transport volume	15	5
	SOURCES: INCRED RESEARCH, COM	PANY REPORTS

(Rsm)	FY22F		FY23F	
	Old	New	Old	New
Sales	21,388	20,581	22,258	22,225
% change		-4		0
EBITDA	2,158	2,765	2,706	2,827
% change		28		4
PAT	25	517	370	482
% change		1,966		30

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BY THE NUMBERS





Profit & Loss

(Rs mn)	Mar-19A	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F
Total Net Revenues	21,095	21,185	17,629	20,581	22,225
Gross Profit	6,352	7,082	5,812	6,392	6,685
Operating EBITDA	2,440	2,983	2,475	2,765	2,827
Depreciation And Amortisation	(1,006)	(1,675)	(1,598)	(1,771)	(1,858)
Operating EBIT	1,434	1,307	877	995	969
Financial Income/(Expense)	(29)	(264)	(240)	(306)	(326)
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.					
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)					
Profit Before Tax (pre-El)	1,405	1,043	637	689	643
Exceptional Items					
Pre-tax Profit	1,405	1,043	637	689	643
Taxation	(486)	(142)	(187)	(172)	(161)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	919	901	451	517	482
Minority Interests					
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	919	901	451	517	482
Recurring Net Profit	919	901	451	517	482
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	919	901	451	517	482

Cash Flow					
(Rs mn)	Mar-19A	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F
EBITDA	2,440	2,983	2,475	2,765	2,827
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	(2)	(121)	789	(468)	(70)
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow					
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	(29)	(264)	(240)	(306)	(326)
Tax Paid	(486)	(142)	(187)	(172)	(161)
Cashflow From Operations	1,923	2,456	2,837	1,819	2,270
Capex	(2,112)	(1,227)	(800)	(800)	(800)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries	2		1		
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments					
Other Investing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Investing	(2,110)	(1,227)	(799)	(800)	(800)
Debt Raised/(repaid)	595	3,137	(485)		
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares	105	(560)	(295)		
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(497)	(632)	(353)	(883)	(442)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow	(78)	(3,171)	(854)	500	
Cash Flow From Financing	125	(1,226)	(1,987)	(383)	(442)
Total Cash Generated	(62)	3	51	636	1,029
Free Cashflow To Equity	408	4,366	1,553	1,019	1,470
Free Cashflow To Firm	(79)	1,596	2,406	1,425	1,897

SOURCES: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



BY THE NUMBERS...cont'd

Balance Sheet					
(Rs mn)	Mar-19A	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F
Total Cash And Equivalents	131	134	185	821	1,850
Total Debtors	904	983	639	926	1,000
Inventories	298	293	395	288	311
Total Other Current Assets	723	720	543	562	599
Total Current Assets	2,056	2,130	1,762	2,598	3,759
Fixed Assets	7,442	9,923	9,580	8,109	7,05
Total Investments	25	25	24	24	24
Intangible Assets					
Total Other Non-Current Assets	254	92	619	619	619
Total Non-current Assets	7,721	10,039	10,224	8,752	7,69
Short-term Debt	100	236		4,059	4,05
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors					
Other Current Liabilities	1,137	1,007	1,467	1,198	1,26
Total Current Liabilities	1,237	1,243	1,467	5,257	5,32
Total Long-term Debt	1,307	4,308	4,059		
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities					
Total Non-current Liabilities	1,307	4,308	4,059		
Total Provisions	775	449	488	488	48
Total Liabilities	3,318	6,000	6,014	5,745	5,80
Shareholders Equity	6,459	6,169	5,971	5,605	5,64
Minority Interests					
Total Equity	6,459	6,169	5,971	5,605	5,64
Key Ratios					
	Mar-19A	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23
Revenue Growth	9.7%	0.4%	(16.8%)	16.7%	8.0%
Operating EBITDA Growth	4.2%	22.2%	(17.0%)	11.7%	2.2%
Operating EBITDA Margin	11.6%	14.1%	14.0%	13.4%	12.7%
Net Cash Per Share (Rs)	(14.12)	(48.81)	(43.86)	(36.65)	(25.01
BVPS (Rs)	71.50	68.28	67.59	63.44	63.9
Gross Interest Cover	13.20	3.56	2.38	2.45	2.2
Effective Tax Rate	34.6%	13.6%	29.3%	25.0%	25.09
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	54.1%	70.2%	78.4%	171.0%	91.69
Accounts Receivables Days	15.75	16.25	16.79	13.88	15.8
Inventory Days	6.68	7.64	10.62	8.79	7.0
Accounts Payables Days					
ROIC (%)	19.5%	15.4%	8.0%	9.6%	10.49
ROCE (%)	18.7%	14.2%	9.3%	10.6%	10.59
Return On Average Assets	10.3%	10.6%	5.7%	7.0%	7.1%

SOURCES: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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Corporate Governance Report of Thai Listed Companies (CGR). CG Rating by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD) in 2020, Anti-Corruption 2020

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Add	The stock's total return is expected to exceed 10% over the next 12 months.
Hold	The stock's total return is expected to be between 0% and positive 10% over the next 12 months.
Reduce	The stock's total return is expected to fall below 0% or more over the next 12 months.
	rn of a stock is defined as the sum of the: (i) percentage difference between the target price and the current price and (ii) the forward net tock. Stock price targets have an investment horizon of 12 months.
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Neutral	A Neutral rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a neutral absolute recommendation.
Underweight	An Underweight rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a negative absolute recommendation.
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Neutral	A Neutral rating means investors should be positioned with a neutral weight in this country relative to benchmark.
Underweight	An Underweight rating means investors should be positioned with a below-market weight in this country relative to benchmark.