

India

REDUCE (no change)

Sell 7 Consensus ratings*: Buy 24 Hold 2 Current price: Rs338 Rs256 Target price: Previous target: Rs252 -24.3% Up/downside: InCred Research / Consensus: -22.4% Reuters: APTY IN Bloombera: US\$2,959m Market cap: Rs214,855m US\$16.9m Average daily turnover: Rs1224.8m

635.1m

62.7%

Key changes in this note

Current shares o/s:

Free float: *Source: Bloomberg

- Net sales cut by 2% for FY23F-25F.
- EBITDA margin raised by 53bp for FY23F.
- EPS cut by ~3% for FY24F-25F.



		Source: Bloomberg		
Price performance	1M	3M	12M	
Absolute (%)	3.2	17.1	51.2	
Relative (%)	2.2	18.0	46.5	

Major shareholders	% held
Kanwar Family	37.3
Emerald Sage Investment Ltd.	9.9
White Iris Investment Ltd.	8.0

Apollo Tyres Ltd

Onset of weakness in replacement demand

- 3QFY23 EPS growth of 50% gog to Rs4.6 was marginally below our estimate, due to in-line EBITDA being negated by higher interest cost and tax outgo.
- Onset of weakness in truck and car tyre replacement segment demand (most profitable) in India and Europe leads to our EPS cut of ~3% for FY24F-25F.
- Stock price rally in recent months made P/BV valuation (1.6x) stretched at +1SD above mean for a 12-15% ROCE, leading to our REDUCE rating on it.

India business growth impressive but Europe disappoints

Apollo Tyres' 3QFY23 consolidated EBITDA rose 28% yoy and qoq to Rs9.1bn, which was just 3% above our estimate but 14% above Bloomberg consensus estimate. India EBIT beat estimates by 26% but a sharp 29% yoy plunge in Europe EBIT to Rs1.7bn led to disappointment. Net debt eased by 13% qoq to Rs48bn but interest cost rose by 8% qoq to Rs1.4bn. Higher interest cost, rise in tax outgo, and lower other income led to a PAT of Rs2.9bn, a 3% miss vs. our estimate.

Management conference-call highlights

Management highlighted that India business volume dipped 4% yoy in 3QFY23 due to a sharp 8% decline witnessed in both truck and car tyre replacement segments. Our channel check indicates that MRF has gained leadership in the truck radial replacement segment and is fast expanding its lead over Apollo Tyres. In Europe (Fig. 7), replacement tyre demand dipped by a sharp 14% yoy, while Apollo Tyres limited the drop to 5% with the help of a better product mix and pricing. The sharp drop in rubber prices (22% gog), along with a seasonal winter tyre mix, helped improve EBITDA margin by 230bp qoq to 14.2%.

Easing rubber prices aid FY23F but weak demand leads to EPS cut

The tailwind from a correction in rubber prices in the short term helped overcome sales volume challenges, leading to an EPS upgrade of 4% for FY23F. However, sustenance of weak demand, we feel, will force Apollo Tyres and its peers into giving price discounts soon, thus leading to our consolidated EPS cut of ~3% for FY24F-25F. Volatility in Europe EBIT, elevated profitability from short-term Russia supply chain issue and recession possibility in CY23F, we feel, are the areas of concern.

Retain REDUCE rating due to rich valuation and likely weak demand

The recent 3-month stock price rally drove P/BV valuation to +1SD above 7-year mean level (Fig. 16). The combination of rich valuation and weak demand, we feel, are the areas of concern, leading us to retain our REDUCE rating. We have assigned a 12x 1-year forward P/E, which is just above -1SD of the 7-year mean to arrive at a marginally higher target price of Rs256 (Rs252 earlier), which is a 25% downside from the current level. Higher capacity utilization (~80%) and capex requirement soon can lead to a further downside. Upside risk: Better pricing discipline helping retain lower rubber cost benefits.

Analyst(s)



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Financial Summary	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
Revenue (Rsm)	172,006	209,475	245,608	281,291	315,323
Operating EBITDA (Rsm)	26,011	25,740	31,663	35,018	40,039
Net Profit (Rsm)	3,502	6,384	9,097	11,129	13,970
Core EPS (Rs)	11.5	10.1	14.3	17.5	22.0
Core EPS Growth	159.1%	(12.2%)	41.2%	22.3%	25.5%
FD Core P/E (x)	61.35	33.65	23.62	19.31	15.38
DPS (Rs)	3.5	5.0	6.0	7.5	9.0
Dividend Yield	1.03%	1.48%	1.77%	2.22%	2.66%
EV/EBITDA (x)	9.87	10.13	8.27	7.37	6.50
P/FCFE (x)	12.62	(55.51)	84.50	24.89	60.15
Net Gearing	36.7%	39.0%	38.4%	33.5%	33.0%
P/BV (x)	1.88	1.83	1.75	1.66	1.56
ROE	6.9%	5.6%	7.6%	8.8%	10.5%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			4.22%	(3.51%)	(2.86%)
InCred Research/Consensus EPS (x)					

SOURCES: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



Onset of weakness in replacement demand 3QFY23 earnings-call highlights

Outlook: For India business, management expects replacement tyre demand as well as exports to remain subdued in the near term, while the demand from original equipment manufacturers or OEMs should remain firm. In respect of the Europe business, it expects the earnings growth momentum to continue with demand recovery in key markets, continuous focus on improving the sales mix and easing raw material cost. Management stated that healthy free cash flow and a ROCE of 12% in 3QFY23 are the indicators which it plans to use going ahead as performance-based metrics for the management reward system. On the raw material front, it expects the price correction to be in mid-single-digit in 4QFY23F. However, management believes that beyond the near-term challenges, the demand should pick up in the medium term.

India business: Replacement demand was subdued but there was a strong revival in OEM demand with 30%+ volume growth. Export volume declined by 25% qoq. Overall, India business volume declined by 4% yoy, and truck tyre replacement as well as passenger car tyre replacement volume also fell by 8% yoy. The correction in raw material prices provided benefits of 6% qoq. Management stated that the company lost out on some OEM volume due to higher pricing, and added that it was one price increase ahead of peers. For comparison, it mentioned that with Apollo Tyres' base price for India passenger car radial tyre at Rs100, in case of MRF it will be Rs94 and for Bridgestone it will be Rs110. Apollo Tyres expects its Vredestein brand to compete with the MNCs.

Europe business: Revenue was flattish gog at €180m which, on a yoy basis, grew by 7% led by the improvement in pricing and sales mix. Management mentioned that demand was subdued due to a delayed winter and poor market sentiment. Management also stated that the company maintained its market share in key segments. While the market was down 14%, Apollo Tyres was down 5%. It is trying to make inroads into new focus markets like Spain, France and the UK. EBITDA stood at €28m with a margin of 15.4%. Margins were impacted on a yoy basis due to higher raw material and energy costs. The Europe business is yet to witness lower raw material prices as the initial correction was led by natural rubber prices, which has a lower impact on the Europe business products. The mix of UHP/UUHP (ultra high performance/ultra ultra high performance) tyres increased by 200bp yoy to 45%. The company is still benefiting from the ban on Russian tyre imports in West Europe which has created a gap of 8-10m passenger car tyres. Management feels that a similar branding and sales mix of winter tyres has enabled Apollo Tyres to grab some of this market share. Reifencom's revenue stood at €78m, while EBITDA margin fell just short of 8%. On the pricing front, taking the base price of Michelin tyre as 100, it indicated that Vredestein's tyre price will be 92.

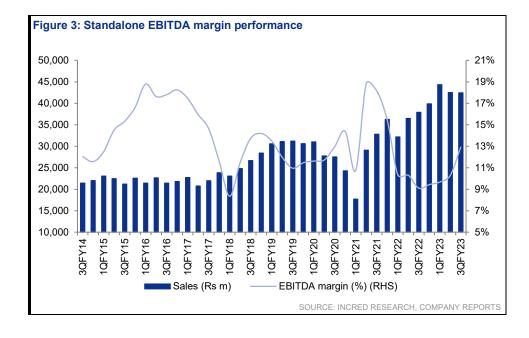
Capex: Management indicated FY23YTD capex at Rs4.5bn for India business and €20m for Europe business. Management also indicated that it is unlikely to budget for any major growth capex for FY24F. India PCR (passenger car radial) and TBR (truck bus radial) utilization stood at 80% while Europe utilization stood at 90%. Management mentioned that whenever the next capex cycle starts, it would be spread over two years. Working capital requirement reduced largely due to the reduction in inventory in India as well as Europe. This helped net debt to decline by ~13% qoq to Rs48bn.



FYE Mar (Rs m)	3QFY23	3QFY22	yoy % chg	2QFY23	qoq % chg	9MFY23	9MFY22	yoy % chg	Comments
Revenue	64,228	57,075	12.5	59,560	7.8	1,83,208	1,53,693	19.2	In line with our estimates.
Raw Materials	38,754	34,271	13.1	36,406	6.4	1,11,000	90,247	23.0	
RM as % of revenue	60.3	60.0	29	61.1	(78.6)	60.6	58.7	187	Gross margin was 444bp below our estimates.
EBITDA	9,134	7,429	22.9	7,120	28.3	23,152	19,477	18.9	3% above our estimates aided by lower operating expenses.
EBITDA margin (%)	14.2	13.0	120	12.0	226.6	12.6	12.7	(4)	32bp above our estimates.
Depn & amort.	3,544	3,443	2.9	3,485	1.7	10,467	10,243	2.2	10% below our estimates.
EBIT	5,589	3,987	40.2	3,635	53.8	12,685	9,234	37.4	
Interest expense	1,420	1,083	31.1	1,320	7.6	3,922	3,165	23.9	In line with our estimates.
Other Income	67	170	(60.3)	69	(2)	242	863	(72.0)	
Pretax profit	4,237	3,073	37.9	2,383	77.8	9,005	6,932	29.9	
Tax	1,316	833	58.0	440	199.3	2,234	1,623	37.6	
Tax rate (%)	31.1	27.1	395	18.5	1,261.1	24.8	23.4	139	507bp higher than our estimates.
Normalised Net profit	2,921	2,240	30.4	1,944	50.3	6,771	5,309	27.5	3% below our estimates.
Exceptionals	-	(5)	nm	-	nm	-	(59)	nm	
Reported net profit	2,920	2,235	30.6	1,942	50.3	6,769	3,152	114.7	
Normalised EPS (Rs)	4.6	3.5	30.4	3.1	50.3	10.7	8.4	27.5	

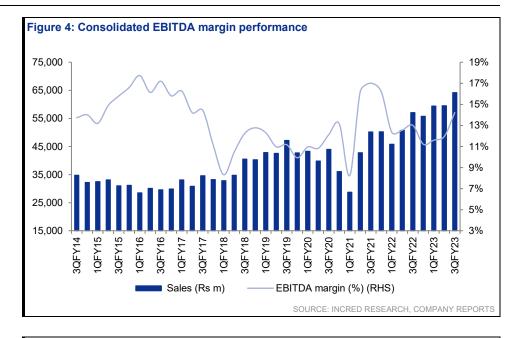
In Rs m	3QFY23	3QFY22	yoy (%)	2QFY23	qoq (%)	9MFY23	9MFY22	yoy (%)
Sales	42,466	37,917	12.0%	42,519	-0.1%	1,29,348	1,06,614	21.3%
EBITDA	5,483	3,450	58.9%	4,374	25.4%	14,145	10,547	34.1%
EBITDA margin	12.9%	9.1%	381	10.3%	263	10.9%	9.9%	104
PAT	1,376	492	179.6%	808	70.2%	3,227	2,080	55.1%

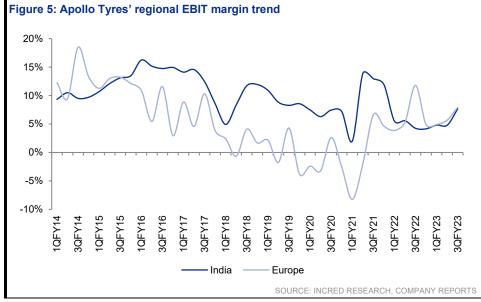
EBITDA margin improves because of softening commodity prices along with the company's focus on profitability over market share.

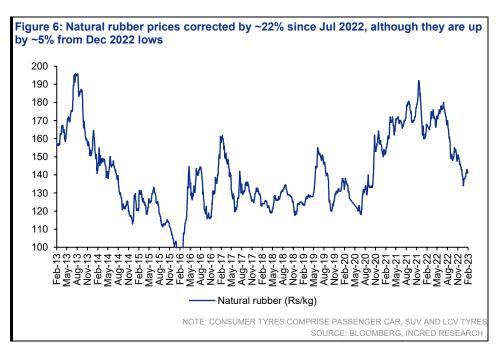




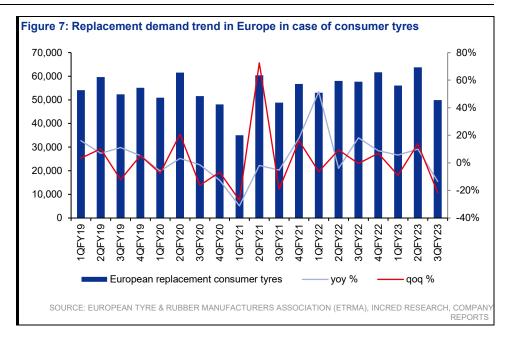
EBITDA margin improves aided by the improvement in its product mix towards UHP/UUHP segments.

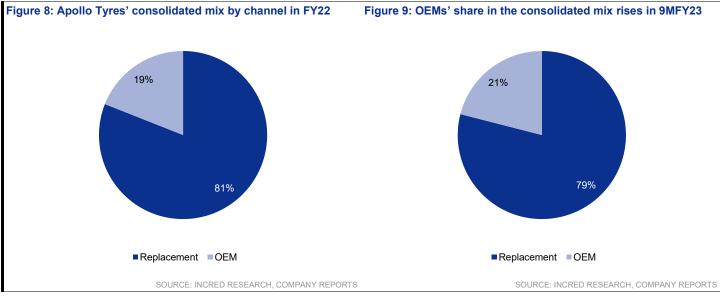


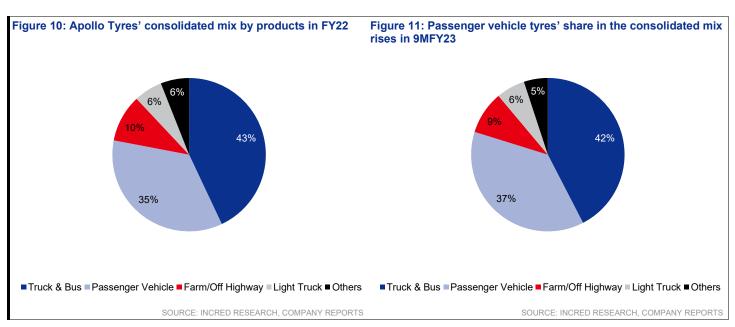




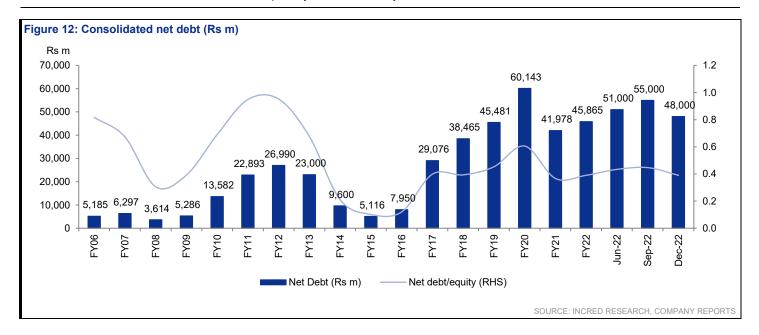












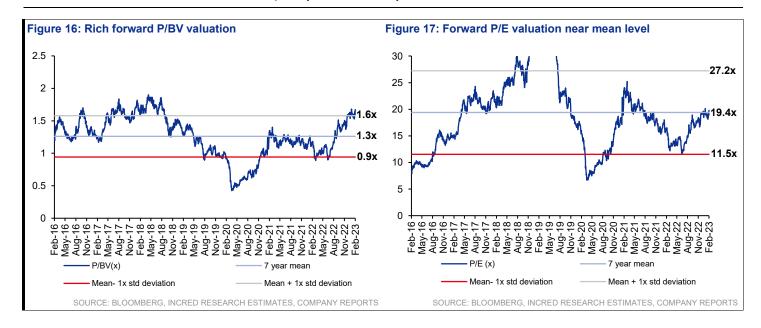
Consolidated (Rs m)		FY23F		FY24F		FY25F	
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	
Net Sales	2,50,761	2,45,608	2,87,202	2,81,291	3,21,980	3,15,323	
Change (%)		-2.1%		-2.1%		-2.1%	
EBITDA	31,002	31,663	35,684	35,018	40,825	40,039	
Change (%)		2.1%		-1.9%		-1.9%	
EBITDA Margin	12.4%	12.9%	12.4%	12.4%	12.7%	12.7%	
bp Change		53		2		2	
Interest Expense	5,160	5,291	5,100	5,100	5,123	5,123	
Change (%)		2.5%		0.0%		0.0%	
Normalised PAT	8,729	9,097	11,535	11,129	14,382	13,970	
Change (%)		4.2%		-3.5%		-2.9%	

Figure 14: Key drivers					
	FY21A	FY22A	FY23F	FY24F	FY25F
India sales (mt)	7,47,161	8,59,236	9,19,382	10,02,127	10,82,297
Growth(%)	5.0%	15.0%	6.0%	9.0%	8.0%
ASP (Rs/kg)	155.2	170.5	189.6	196.6	203.9
Growth(%)	-0.2%	9.9%	11.2%	3.7%	3.7%
India Sales (Rsm)	1,15,952	1,46,494	1,74,328	1,96,991	2,20,629
India EBIT margin(%)	11.4%	4.8%	5.9%	6.4%	7.2%
Europe sales (Rsm)	56,138	65,563	73,431	83,711	95,430
Europe EBIT margin(%)	1.2%	6.8%	6.2%	6.2%	5.9%
Consolidate EBIT margin(%)	7.5%	5.6%	6.8%	6.8%	7.2%
		SOURCE: INCRE	D RESEARCH ES	STIMATES, COMP	ANY REPORTS

Figure 15: Target price calculation methodology							
1-year forward EPS (Rs.)	21.3						
P/E(x)	12.0						
Target Price (Rs.)	256						
	SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS						

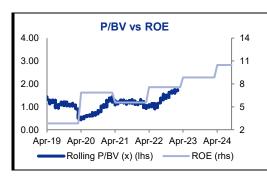








BY THE NUMBERS





Profit & Loss					
(Rs m)	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
Total Net Revenue	172,006	209,475	245,608	281,291	315,323
Gross Profit	78,061	85,620	96,278	113,923	130,859
Operating EBITDA	26,011	25,740	31,663	35,018	40,039
Depreciation And Amortisation	(13,150)	(13,997)	(14,943)	(15,987)	(17,261)
Operating EBIT	12,861	11,744	16,719	19,032	22,779
Financial Income/(Expense)	(2,522)	(3,209)	(4,426)	(4,192)	(4,151)
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.					
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)					
Profit Before Tax (pre-EI)	10,339	8,534	12,293	14,839	18,627
Exceptional Items					
Pre-tax Profit	10,339	8,534	12,293	14,839	18,627
Taxation	(3,005)	(2,091)	(3,196)	(3,710)	(4,657)
Exceptional Income - post-tax	(3,833)	(59)			
Profit After Tax	3,502	6,384	9,097	11,129	13,970
Minority Interests					
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	3,502	6,384	9,097	11,129	13,970
Recurring Net Profit	7,335	6,443	9,097	11,129	13,970
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	7,335	6,443	9,097	11,129	13,970

Cash Flow					
(Rs m)	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
EBITDA	26,011	25,740	31,663	35,018	40,039
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	(549)	(2,663)	(11,382)	(4,790)	(7,160)
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions	12,117	374	1,460	1,550	1,350
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow	1,908	1,235	864	908	971
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	(4,430)	(4,444)	(5,291)	(5,100)	(5,123)
Tax Paid	(2,068)	(948)	(2,459)	(2,968)	(3,725)
Cashflow From Operations	32,989	19,294	14,856	24,618	26,352
Capex	(17,437)	(20,877)	(10,500)	(14,500)	(21,000)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries					
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments					
Other Investing Cashflow	4,773	872	(1,813)	(1,485)	(1,780)
Cash Flow From Investing	(12,664)	(20,005)	(12,313)	(15,985)	(22,780)
Debt Raised/(repaid)	(3,302)	(3,160)			
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares	63				
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(2,223)	(3,176)	(3,811)	(4,763)	(5,716)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Financing	(5,462)	(6,335)	(3,811)	(4,763)	(5,716)
Total Cash Generated	14,863	(7,046)	(1,268)	3,869	(2,144)
Free Cashflow To Equity	17,022	(3,870)	2,543	8,633	3,572
Free Cashflow To Firm	24,754	3,733	7,833	13,733	8,695

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



BY THE NUMBERS...cont'd

Balance Sheet					
(Rs m)	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
Total Cash And Equivalents	22,359	15,313	14,045	17,914	15,771
Total Debtors	13,808	16,104	20,187	23,120	25,917
Inventories	33,185	41,554	49,795	55,488	62,201
Total Other Current Assets	13,637	10,539	12,500	14,200	16,200
Total Current Assets	82,989	83,510	96,526	110,722	120,088
Fixed Assets	173,057	179,938	175,494	174,008	177,747
Total Investments	195	399	439	483	531
Intangible Assets	2,204	2,158	2,158	2,158	2,158
Total Other Non-Current Assets					
Total Non-current Assets	175,456	182,495	178,092	176,649	180,436
Short-term Debt	3,033	17,093	17,093	17,093	17,093
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	28,067	36,069	37,009	40,845	43,195
Other Current Liabilities	40,150	38,610	40,410	42,210	44,010
Total Current Liabilities	71,250	91,772	94,512	100,148	104,298
Total Long-term Debt	61,304	44,085	44,085	44,085	44,085
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities					
Total Non-current Liabilities	61,304	44,085	44,085	44,085	44,085
Total Provisions	11,460	12,627	13,213	13,964	14,713
Total Liabilities	144,014	148,483	151,810	158,197	163,096
Shareholders' Equity	114,431	117,521	122,808	129,174	137,428
Minority Interests					
Total Equity	114,431	117,521	122,808	129,174	137,428

Key Ratios					
	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
Revenue Growth	6.6%	21.8%	17.2%	14.5%	12.1%
Operating EBITDA Growth	51.0%	(1.0%)	23.0%	10.6%	14.3%
Operating EBITDA Margin	15.1%	12.3%	12.9%	12.4%	12.7%
Net Cash Per Share (Rs)	(66.10)	(72.22)	(74.21)	(68.12)	(71.50)
BVPS (Rs)	180.18	185.04	193.37	203.39	216.39
Gross Interest Cover	2.90	2.64	3.16	3.73	4.45
Effective Tax Rate	29.1%	24.5%	26.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	30.3%	49.3%	41.9%	42.8%	40.9%
Accounts Receivables Days	24.62	26.06	26.97	28.10	28.38
Inventory Days	126.76	110.13	111.64	114.80	116.44
Accounts Payables Days	99.38	94.50	89.31	84.89	83.15
ROIC (%)	5.0%	4.6%	6.3%	6.9%	8.1%
ROCE (%)	7.1%	6.3%	8.8%	9.8%	11.3%
Return On Average Assets	3.7%	3.3%	4.4%	4.9%	5.7%

	Mar-21A	Mar-22A	Mar-23F	Mar-24F	Mar-25F
ASP (% chg, main prod./serv.)	(0.2%)	9.9%	11.2%	3.7%	3.7%
Unit sales grth (%, main prod./serv.)	5.0%	15.0%	6.0%	9.0%	8.0%

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



Auto Parts | India Apollo Tyres Ltd | February 07, 2023

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