

# India

July 18, 2023 - 06:40 AM

# Neutral (no change)

### **Highlighted Companies**

#### **BCL Industries Ltd**

ADD, TP Rs790, Rs470 close

The rise in grain prices will impact the ethanol division only while high ENA prices can be passed on to the consumers. The Indian Made Indian Liquor (IMIL) segment has already taken price hikes.

### Globus Spirits Ltd ADD, TP Rs3014, Rs1249 close

The grain cost for the company is lower than that of the industry due to backward integration, but the benefits of the same would be nullified if rice prices rise.

### **Gulshan Polyols Ltd**

ADD, TP Rs444, Rs238 close

The company could suffer a temporary setback if rice prices rise, but there is backing by the government at Rs21/kg and the scale-up of operations (to 560klpd from 60 klpd), we feel, could mitigate the cost pressure.

## **Summary Valuation Metrics**

Mar22-A	Mar23-A	Mar24-F
13.37	18	7.13
19.2	27.13	10.36
14.13	27.06	7.5
Mar22-A	Mar23-A	Mar24-F
3.09	3.98	2.58
4.66	4.01	2.94
2.31	2.15	1.69
Mar22-A	Mar23-A	Mar24-F
0.37%	0.17%	0.35%
0.31%	0.22%	0.58%
0.69%	0.37%	0.67%
	13.37 19.2 14.13 <b>Mar22-A</b> 3.09 4.66 2.31 <b>Mar22-A</b> 0.37% 0.31%	13.37 18 19.2 27.13 14.13 27.06  Mar22-A Mar23-A 3.09 3.98 4.66 4.01 2.31 2.15  Mar22-A Mar23-A 0.37% 0.17% 0.31% 0.22%



# Analyst(s)

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# **Agribusiness**

# Food crisis looms over the horizon

- The Russia-Ukraine grain deal has collapsed, which could push the world into a 'Hunger Games' situation with grain-have/have-not countries.
- We feel El Nino and China's weather crisis will only add fuel to the fire.
- In this report, we have tried to assess the probable impact in respect of food grain and its derivatives on the companies in our coverage universe.

### All is not well

- Grain prices had cooled off due to the Russia-Ukraine grain deal.
- · However, Russia pulled out the plug and the crisis is back.
- As energy prices are no more a threat for Russia, grain politics is back into the limelight.

## This time it's a worst-case scenario

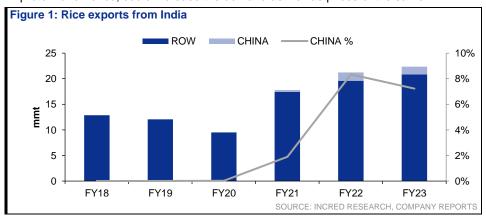
- Last time, the big nations had their grain stockpiles and hence, the crisis was downplayed.
- El Nino was not a big threat last time, but it's a nightmare currently.
- It may be recalled that China was not hit by a weather crisis earlier.

# Surprisingly, India is in focus

- China's most important grain is rice, of which it is a leading producer and consumer.
- However, China knows the 'Hunger Games' may start soon and hence, has started to import whatever grain they can manage without spooking the market.
- India is the second-largest producer of rice, and also its largest exporter.
- India's domestic market has started to feel the heat of China sucking rice stocks out.
- Hence, the wake-up call, and rice exports will have to be stopped soon.
- Next year, being an election year, the government may have to halt rice exports soon.
- It's in the interest of the government to use excess rice stock as a diplomatic tool.
- Strategic rice/paddy reserves are at 13.58mmt against which, as of Jul 2023, the government holds 48.63mmt.

## Likely impact on our coverage universe

- Grain ethanol/alcobev Globus Spirits: Sentimentally negative but financially no impact as the raw material (rice) price could rise, but the end-product gets a price hike as well.
- Grain ethanol BCL Industries: Sentimentally negative but financially there is a mild impact as the raw material (rice) price could rise, nullifying backward integration benefits.
- Grain ethanol Gulshan Polyols: Sentimentally negative but there will be a medium impact financially as raw material (rice) price could rise, thereby hurting profitability.
- Alcobev Som Distilleries and Breweries: Sentimentally negative but no impact financially. Barley prices may rise, but the major beer season is behind us.
- Seeds Kaveri Seeds: Sentimentally positive but no impact financially. The noise around self-sufficiency in food grains is likely to keep the company in focus.
- Shrimp feed Avanti Feeds: Negative, sentimentally as well as financially, as higher grain prices will directly hit gross profit.
- Shrimp processing Apex Frozen Foods & Coastal Corporation Positive, sentimentally and financially. The rise in grain prices has a direct impact on animal protein and hence, could increase the demand as well as prices of the same.





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