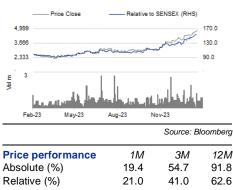
India

REDUCE (no change)

Consensus ratings*:	Buy 28	Hold 8	Sell 8
Current price:			Rs4,909
Target price:			3,321
Previous target:			Rs2,499
Up/downside:			-32.3%
InCred Research / Co	onsensus	:	-18.7%
Reuters:		н	ROM.NS
Bloomberg:		I	HMCL IN
Market cap:		US\$	11,817m
		Rs9	81,216m
Average daily turnove	er:	U	S\$29.1m
		Rs	2415.2m
Current shares o/s:			199.8m
Free float:			65.2%
*Source: Bloomberg			

Key changes in this note

- Sales cut by around 3% for FY24F-26F.
- EBITDA raised by 1-2% for FY24F-26F.
- EPS raised by 1% for FY24F-26F.



% held Major shareholders Hero Group LIC of India **ICICI** Prudential Fund

34.8

11.2

4.0

Research Analyst(s)



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Hero MotoCorp

Sustains its EBITDA margin in 3Q

- 3QFY24 EPS growth of 43% yoy to Rs50.7 was marginally above our/Bloomberg consensus estimates.
- We maintain our financial estimates as the reduction in sales volume is compensated by a marginal increase in the EBITDA margin.
- We feel the sharp rerating in the stock's valuation without any signs of rural recovery is a cause of concern. Maintain our REDUCE rating on the stock.

Gross margin expansion in 3QFY24 is impressive

Hero MotoCorp's 3QQFY24 EBITDA grew by 2% qoq and 47% yoy to Rs13.6bn, which was 3% above our estimate and 5% above Bloomberg consensus estimate. The gross margin expansion of 125bp was impressive but the spike in other expenses disappointed. A special interim dividend of Rs100 per share has been announced by the company.

Management conference-call highlights

Management indicated that the company's EBITDA margin shed 200bp as the electric vehicle or EV division was a drag on its financials. Considering the superior margins in premium bikes, where it has launched new vehicles and expanded showrooms, it expects a 200bp rise in the EBITDA margin which it plans to deploy for reviving two-wheeler or 2W demand. Management plans to launch entry-level and mid-segment EV scooters in the Jun 2024F quarter to address the wide spectrum of electric two-wheelers or E2Ws. Management plans to incur a capex of Rs6bn to double spare parts sales to Rs100bn by FY27F

Maintain our financial estimates

The weak single-digit sales volume growth post festive season disappointed, as the premium bike volume ramp-up has been gradual. We have cut our sales estimates by around 3% for FY24F-26F. Building in management's guidance of close to14% EBITDA margin, we raise our EBITDA estimates by 1-2%. The recovery in rural demand is essential for the company to gain market share and improve volume momentum, in our view. Any aggression in the pricing of EVs, which it plans to launch in FY25F, can pose a risk our EBITDA margin assumptions.

Rural market recovery hopes factored in stock rally in recent months

Hopes of rural market recovery post festive season have not yet materialized in monthly volume traction while the stock price has risen by 30% in the last two months which, in our view, leads to a stretched valuation at a P/BV of +2SD. Meanwhile, there are fresh hopes of rural market recovery on the back of forthcoming general elections in India. We raise our sum-of-the-parts or SOTP-based target price to Rs3,321 (Rs2,499 earlier), rolling forward our valuation. The stock trades near its mean-level P/E. We maintain our REDUCE rating on it. The upside risk is success of new product launches driving profitability.

Financial Summary	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26F
Revenue (Rsm)	292,455	338,057	369,013	422,478	470,136
Operating EBITDA (Rsm)	33,688	39,862	51,331	57,587	62,347
Net Profit (Rsm)	24,730	29,106	39,349	44,304	48,241
Core EPS (Rs)	123.8	145.7	196.9	221.7	241.4
Core EPS Growth	(16.6%)	17.7%	35.2%	12.6%	8.9%
FD Core P/E (x)	39.66	33.70	24.93	22.14	20.34
DPS (Rs)	120.0	100.1	180.1	156.1	180.1
Dividend Yield	2.44%	2.04%	3.67%	3.18%	3.67%
EV/EBITDA (x)	25.90	21.76	16.85	14.95	13.67
P/FCFE (x)	42.37	45.24	28.87	31.32	26.12
Net Gearing	(68.6%)	(68.0%)	(68.5%)	(65.9%)	(66.1%)
P/BV (x)	6.21	5.87	5.80	5.38	5.04
ROE	16.0%	17.9%	23.4%	25.2%	25.6%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			0.28%	1.23%	1.22%
InCred Research/Consensus EPS (x)					

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Sustains its EBITDA margin in 3Q

Management conference-call highlights>

- **Outlook:** The industry is likely to witness a double-digit revenue growth in FY25F. Hero MotoCorp is confident of growing faster than the industry to gain market share. Sales enquiries have been increasing in rural areas and management expects the revenue contribution from this market to increase by 300bp from the current levels.
- Financial performance: The ICE (internal combustion engine) vehicle segment generated 16% EBITDA margin and the company invested 220bp of this margin in EV product development and R&D. The rising raw material price impact has been absorbed by the company partially while the remaining has been passed on to its customers. Management expects the raw material prices to be stable from the current levels.
- **Financing activity:** Easy financing activity and lower cost of financing helped in increasing market penetration to 60-65%, and management expects the company to increase it further in the next three years led by government push to infrastructure, especially in in rural areas.
- Segment-wise performance: 125cc motorcycles are likely to witness a similar growth as in 2QFY24 next year led by their premium versions. 220cc+ motorcycles are likely to clock a double-digit volume growth. The company has models like XOOM 40, Karizma, Harley X440 and the upcoming Maverick 440.
- **Product-wise details:** The bookings for Maverick 440 will commence this month and deliveries are likely to start in Apr 2024F. Harley X440 and Karizma order books topped 30,000 units in three-to-four months, Management is ramping up the capacity to 10,000 units per month by Mar 2024F. In the ICE segment, the company plans to launch 125cc scooters in its top 10 countries, especially in Nigeria and Nepal.
- Electric vehicles: The company has expanded its product reach to 100+ cities with a 150+-dealer network and has opened 18 Vida hubs, which will be increased to 100 next year. The company plans to foray into affordable and mid segments, with prices of the vehicles ranging from Rs100,000 to Rs1,45,000 each.
- **Inventory level:** Currently, the company has four-to-six weeks of inventory which, its management believes, is the healthy level.
- Spare parts business: Management has decided to make an investment of Rs6bn over the next two years in the spare parts business to improve stock-keeping units or SKUs and expand the merchandise portfolio. Revenue in 3QFY24 stood at Rs14.36bn vs. Rs12.59bn in 3QFY23 as against Rs13.54bn in 2QFY24.

Y/E Mar (Rs m)	3QFY24	3QFY23	yoy % chg	2QFY24	qoq % chg	9MFY24	9MFY23	yoy % chg Cor	nments
Revenue	97,237	80,310	21.1	94,454	2.9	2,79,364	2,54,989	9.6 1%	above our estimate.
Raw material costs	65,470	55,743	17.5	64,780	1.1	1,91,059	1,82,118	4.9	
RM costs as a % of revenue	67	69	(208.0)	69	(125.3)	68	71	(303.1)	
EBITDA	13,620	9,241	47.4	13,283	2.5	38,966	29,032	34.2	
EBITDA margin (%)	14.0	11.5	250.0	14.1	(5.6)	13.9	11.4	256.2 3.49	% above our estimate.
Depreciation & amortization	1,825	1,620	12.7	1,749	4.4	5,264	4,884	7.8	
EBIT	11,795	7,621	54.8	11,534	2.3	33,702	24,149	39.6	
Interest expenses	45	49	(7.8)	48	(5.0)	139	152	(8.2)	
Other income	1,825	1,832	(0.4)	2,483	(26.5)	6,530	3,282	98.9 4%	below our estimate.
Pre-tax profit	13,575	9,404	44.3	13,970	(2.8)	40,092	27,279	47.0	
Tax	3,437	2,294	49.8	3,431	0.1	9,969	6,763	47.4	
Tax rate (%)	25.3	24.4	92.4	24.6	75.1	24.9	24.8	7.4	
Normalized net profit	10,139	7,111	42.6	10,538	(3.8)	30,124	20,517	46.8 3%	above our estimate.
Exceptional items	-	-	-	-	nm	(1,200)	-	nm	
Other comprehensive income	-	-	nm	-	nm	-	(14)	-	
Reported net profit	10,139	7,111	42.6	10,538	(3.8)	28,924	20,517	41.0	
Normalized EPS (Rs)	50.7	35.6	42.6	52.7	(3.8)	150.8	102.7	46.8	
Volumes (nos.)	14,59,932	12,39,693	17.8	14,16,526	3.1	42,29,032	40,58,054	4.2	
Net realization (Rs)	66,604	64,782	2.8	66,680	(0.1)	66,059	62,835	5.1	
EBITDA/vehicle	9,329	7,455	25.1	9,377	(0.5)	9,214	7,154	28.8	

Figure 1: Results comparison

InCred Equities

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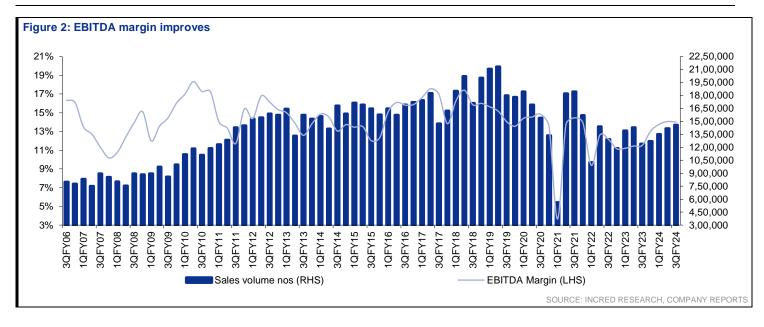
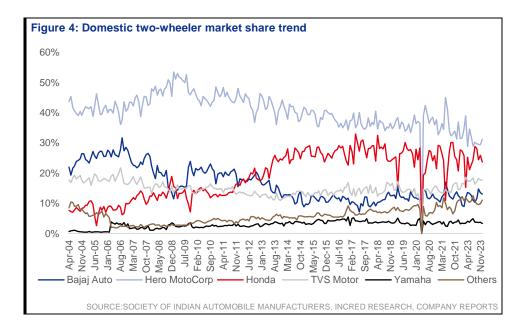


Figure 3: Model-	wise perfo	rmance						
Motorcycles	3QFY24	3QFY23	YoY (%)	2QFY24	QoQ (%)	9MFY23	9MFY24	YoY (%)
Splendor Family	7,89,565	7,52,752	4.9	8,38,469	(5.8)	23,47,074	24,39,444	(3.8)
Passion Family	1,09,060	36,981	194.9	1,08,526	0.5	1,57,327	2,72,438	(42.3)
HF Deluxe	2,95,196	2,50,905	17.7	2,23,055	32.3	8,55,262	7,95,326	7.5
Glamour	69,784	43,900	59.0	77,903	(10.4)	2,19,817	1,86,795	17.7
Others	22,846	12,306	85.6	18,471	23.7	59,660	56,949	4.8
Total motorcycles	12,86,451	10,96,844	17.3	12,66,424	1.6	36,39,140	37,50,952	(3.0)
Scooters								
Maestro	601	9,198	(93.5)	2,832	(78.8)	31,071	8,724	256.2
Pleasure	58,387	58,480	(0.2)	34,879	67.4	1,49,899	1,14,173	31.3
Destini 125	40,372	39,293	2.7	34,354	17.5	1,00,985	95,299	6.0
Xoom	19,836	na	na	23,131	(14.2)	na	77,208	na
Vida	8,246	120	na	2,320	255.4	120	14,046	(99.1)
Total scooters	1,27,442	1,07,091	19.0	97,516	30.7	2,82,075	3,09,450	(8.8)
Total 2W domestic	14,13,893	12,03,935	17.4	13,63,940	3.7	39,21,215	40,60,402	(3.4)
Exports	46,037	35,664	29.1	52,584	(12.5)	1,36,744	1,33,945	2.1
Gross Total	14,59,930	12,39,599	17.8	14,16,524	3.1	40,57,959	41,94,347	(3.3)
SOURCE:	SOCIETY OF	INDIAN AUTO	MOBILE M	ANUFACTURE	ERS, INCRE	D RESEARCH	, COMPANY R	EPORTS



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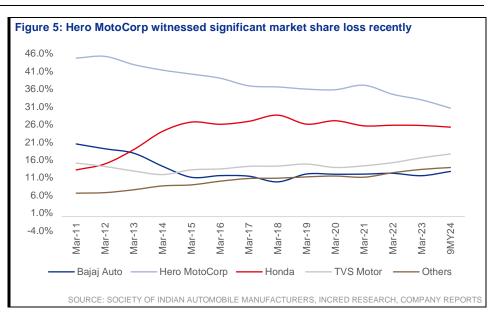


Figure 6: Our revised earnings estimates FY24F FY25F FY26F New New Rs m Old New Old Old 62,44,693 62,44,693 Sales volume (nos.) 57,11,133 55,59,377 61,20,732 66,18,698 % change -2.7% -2.0% 6.0% Net sales 3,80,889 3,69,013 4,23,601 4,22,478 4,71,541 4,70,136 % change -3.1% -0.3% -0.3% EBITDA 50,591 51,331 57,488 57,587 61,333 62,347 % change 1.5% 0.2% 1.7% PAT 38,944 39,349 44,197 44,304 47,661 48,241 % change 1.0% 0.2% 1.2% SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Figure 7: Earnings revision hig	Jhlights				
Key Assumptions	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F
Vehicle sales volume (units)					
Motorcycle	46,28,006	49,59,707	51,45,670	56,50,965	60,91,387
Growth (%)	-13.1%	7.2%	3.7%	9.8%	7.8%
Scooter	3,16,383	3,68,744	4,13,707	4,69,767	5,27,311
Growth (%)	-30.9%	16.5%	12.2%	13.6%	12.2%
Total	49,44,389	53,28,451	55,59,377	61,20,732	66,18,698
Growth (%)	-14.6%	7.8%	4.3%	10.1%	8.1%
Net Realization Per Vehicle (Rs.)					
Motorcycle	49,005	52,680	54,682	57,143	58,857
Growth (%)	6.6%	7.5%	3.8%	4.5%	3.0%
Scooter	50,440	53,920	55,538	57,759	58,914
Growth (%)	6.0%	6.9%	3.0%	4.0%	2.0%
Total	49,097	52,766	54,746	57,190	58,862
Growth (%)	6.5%	7.5%	3.8%	4.5%	2.9%
Operating Matrix per Vehicle (Rs)					
Net Realization	49,005	52,680	54,682	57,143	58,857
Growth (%)	6.6%	7.5%	3.8%	4.5%	3.0%
Contribution	17,027	18,669	21,108	21,328	21,807
Growth (%)	9.0%	9.6%	13.1%	1.0%	2.2%
EBITDA	33,688	39,862	51,331	57,587	62,347
Growth (%)	-16.2%	18.3%	28.8%	12.2%	8.3%
EBITDA margin (%)	11.5%	11.8%	13.9%	13.6%	13.3%
Change (bp)	(153)	27	212	(28)	(37)
Net profit	24,730	29,106	38,149	44,304	48,241
Growth (%)	-16.0%	17.7%	31.1%	16.1%	8.9%
		SOURC	E: INCRED RES	SEARCH, COMP	ANY REPORTS

InCred Equities

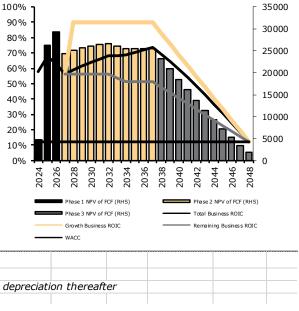
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Figure 8: We have used discounted cash flow or DCF methodology to value the company's core business

Economic Profit Valuation		Rs m	%
Adjusted Opening Invested Capital		58621.7	12
NPV of Economic Profit During Explicit Period		59523.5	12
NPV of Econ Profit of Remaining Business (1, 2)		168131.0	34
NPV of Econ Profit of Net Inv (Grth Business) (1, 3)		210734.8	42
Enterprise Value		497011.1	100
Plus: Other Assets		0.0	0
Less: Minorities		0.0	0
Less: Net Debt (as at 10 Feb 2024)		-113558.6	-23
Equity Value		610569.7	123
No. Shares (millions)		199.5	
Per Share Equity Value	Rs	3060	

Discounted Cash Flow Valuation	Rs m	%
Value of Phase 1: Explicit (2024 to 2026)	60392.3	12
Value of Phase 2: Value Driver (2027 to 2037)	281820.3	57
Value of Phase 3: Fade (2038 to 2048)	130774.7	26
Terminal Value	24029.3	5
Enterprise Value	497016.6	100
FCF Grth Rate at end of Phs 1 implied by DCF Val	uation	4.9
FCF Grth Rate at end of Phs 1 implied by Current	Price	1.6

Returns, WACC and NPV of Free Cash Flow



Sensitivity Table No of Years in Fade Period 10.0% WACC 11.0% 12.0% 13.0% 14.0% Dhaco 2 Ave

Performance Summary				Phase 2 Avg
	2024	2025	2026	(2027 - 2037)
Invested Capital Growth (%)	-3.2	16.6	8.2	9.0
Operating Margin (%)	11.9	11.8	11.5	10.8
Capital Turnover (x)	6.5	7.7	7.3	6.7

Source: InCred Research

1. In periods following the Explicit Period i.e. Phase 2 and Phase 3

2. Remaining Business is defined as Capital as at the end of Phase 1 and capex = depreciation thereafter

3. Net Investment is defined as capex over and above depreciation after Phase 1

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

	Methodology	Multiple	Hero MotoCorp's stake	Value per share (Rs)
Core Business	DCF			3,060
Ather Energy	Private Equity (PE) Investment Valuation		35%	86
Hero FinCorp	P/BV	2 x FY22 Book Value	41%	174
Hero FinCorp SOTP-based valuation	P/BV		41%	





70

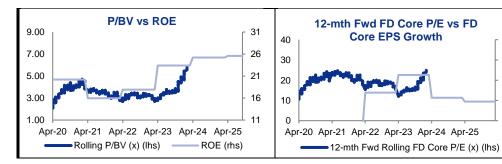
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BY THE NUMBERS



(Rs mn)	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26F
Total Net Revenues	292,455	338,057	369,013	422,478	470,136
Gross Profit	64,833	77,577	93,587	103,222	113,183
Operating EBITDA	33,688	39,862	51,331	57,587	62,347
Depreciation And Amortisation	(6,498)	(6,570)	(7,276)	(7,719)	(8,207)
Operating EBIT	27,190	33,293	44,055	49,867	54,140
Financial Income/(Expense)					
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.					
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	5,311	5,453	8,410	9,204	10,181
Profit Before Tax (pre-El)	32,501	38,746	52,465	59,071	64,322
Exceptional Items					
Pre-tax Profit	32,501	38,746	52,465	59,071	64,322
Taxation	(7,771)	(9,640)	(13,116)	(14,768)	(16,080)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	24,730	29,106	39,349	44,304	48,241
Minority Interests					
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	24,730	29,106	39,349	44,304	48,241
Recurring Net Profit	24,730	29,106	39,349	44,304	48,241
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	24,730	29,106	39,349	44,304	48,241

Cash Flow					
(Rs mn)	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26F
EBITDA	33,688	39,862	51,331	57,587	62,347
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	(4,749)	(3,613)	3,518	(5,496)	(2,583)
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions	(1,785)	(940)	1,316	(1,200)	(1,800)
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow					
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	5,311	5,453	8,410	9,204	10,181
Tax Paid	(7,771)	(9,640)	(13,116)	(14,768)	(16,080)
Cashflow From Operations	24,694	31,122	51,458	45,327	52,064
Сарех	(5,102)	(5,954)	(11,881)	(10,000)	(7,500)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries					
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments					
Other Investing Cashflow	3,558	(3,485)	(5,600)	(4,000)	(7,000)
Cash Flow From Investing	(1,544)	(9,439)	(17,481)	(14,000)	(14,500)
Debt Raised/(repaid)					
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares					
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(23,970)	(19,980)	(35,964)	(31,177)	(35,973)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Financing	(23,970)	(19,980)	(35,964)	(31,177)	(35,973)
Total Cash Generated	(820)	1,704	(1,987)	150	1,591
Free Cashflow To Equity	23,150	21,684	33,977	31,327	37,564
Free Cashflow To Firm	23,150	21,684	33,977	31,327	37,564

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

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BY THE NUMBERS...cont'd

Balance Sheet					
(Rs mn)	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26
Total Cash And Equivalents	108,274	113,559	115,972	120,122	128,71
Total Debtors	23,043	27,982	28,308	34,724	38,64
Inventories	11,227	14,341	15,165	18,520	21,89
Total Other Current Assets	11,950	14,498	15,500	17,200	19,50
Total Current Assets	154,493	170,379	174,945	190,566	208,75
Fixed Assets	62,647	64,633	66,857	69,138	68,43
Total Investments					
Intangible Assets					
Total Other Non-Current Assets					
Total Non-current Assets	62,647	64,633	66,857	69,138	68,43
Short-term Debt		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	42,603	47,045	51,712	55,987	60,69
Other Current Liabilities	12,875	14,482	16,800	17,300	17,80
Total Current Liabilities	55,478	61,527	68,512	73,287	78,49
Total Long-term Debt					,
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities					
Total Non-current Liabilities					
Total Provisions	3,833	4.054	4,054	4.054	4.05
Total Liabilities	59,311	65,581	72,566	77,341	82,55
Shareholders Equity	157,829	167,051	169,236	182.363	194,63
Minority Interests	.0.,020			.02,000	
Total Equity	157.829	167,051	169.236	182.363	194,63
· ·					,
Key Ratios					
	Mar-22A	Mar-23A	Mar-24F	Mar-25F	Mar-26
Revenue Growth	(5.0%)	15.6%	9.2%	14.5%	11.39
Operating EBITDA Growth	(16.2%)	18.3%	28.8%	12.2%	8.3
Operating EBITDA Margin	11.5%	11.8%	13.9%	13.6%	13.39
Net Cash Per Share (Rs)	541.91	568.22	580.29	601.06	644.0
BVPS (Rs)	789.94	835.88	846.81	912.50	973.8
Gross Interest Cover					
Effective Tax Rate	23.9%	24.9%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	96.9%	68.6%	91.4%	70.4%	74.69
Accounts Receivables Days	29.52	27.55	27.84	27.23	28.4
Inventory Days	20.78	17.91	19.55	19.26	20.6
	75.89	62.81	65.44	61.57	59.6
Accounts Payables Days		46.8%	55.1%	65.3%	61.2
Accounts Payables Days ROIC (%)	42.7%	40.070	55.170		
	42.7% 20.5%	23.3%	30.5%	32.8%	33.49
ROIC (%)					
ROIC (%) ROCE (%) Return On Average Assets	20.5%	23.3%	30.5%	32.8%	
ROIC (%) ROCE (%)	20.5% 11.3%	23.3% 12.9%	30.5% 16.5%	32.8% 17.7%	18.04
ROIC (%) ROCE (%) Return On Average Assets	20.5%	23.3%	30.5%	32.8%	33.49 18.09 Mar-26 2.99

SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

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