Morning Note

# India sneak peek

## Published research

## Quick analysis

APM Gas Price Inches Up: A Minor Hiccup in India's Gas Growth Story -APM ceiling raised to \$6.75/mmbtu (+4%)

**Dabur India Ltd** - 4QFY25 Business Update: Weak quarter; India FMCG portfolio (ex Food) declined in mid-single digits

**Deepak Nitrite** - Phenol spreads are collapsing as phenol prices decline, while the drop in benzene prices is offset by falling acetone prices

GAIL Locks in LNG Supplies Amid India's Gas Push - But at What Cost? -Update on GAIL-Qatar Energy new contract

SRF - R-32 prices have started to Fall in USA

### **Top Investment Idea**

**Money, Military and Markets-XI** - Wither free trade, welcome to tariffs! satish.kumar@incredresearch.com

- Imposing tariffs based on trade surplus/deficit goes against common sense and belies all post-Second World War theories of economic efficiency.
- However, this seemingly irrational economic move and withdrawal of the US safety umbrella over Europe is leading to Germany's rise - a positive for India.
- The US has undermined the WTO by giving a free hand to all nations to serve their self-interest. India appears to be playing its cards well.

#### What's in the news (Click on news for more information)

- Reliance to invest Rs 65,000 cr to set up 500 CBG plants in Andhra Pradesh
- Lupin acquires UK-based firm for 12.3 million pounds
- Supreme Infrastructure India's settlement plan for creditors gets NCLT nod
- Fortis Healthcare wins bid for 'Fortis' trademark in public auction
- Flipkart's parent infuses Rs 3,250 crore into India entity

## Expert speak

- Rishi Anand, MD & CEO Aadhar Housing Finance 🗔
- Pradeep Kheruka, Chairman Borosil 🖂
- Sandeep Sikka, CFO HSIL 🗔
- Vimal Kejriwal, MD & CEO KEC International

## Alternative research desk

## Trading desk

<u>Actionable Ideas</u> <u>InCred coverage universe</u> Recent published research

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**Key Metrics** Nifty Index 25,000 24,000 23,000 22,000 21,000 Jan-25 Feb-25 Mar-25 Day Low CMP Day High 23.158 23.332 23.350

103.2 USDvsINR	85.5
4.1 IND10YR (%)	6.5
73.1 WTI (\$/bbl)	69.8
3,150 Aluminum (\$/MT)	2,491
	4.1 IND10YR (%) 73.1 WTI (\$/bbl)

## Quick analysis > Top

APM Gas Price Inches Up: A Minor Hiccup in India's Gas Growth Story - APM ceiling raised to \$6.75/mmbtu (+4%)

- Government hikes APM gas price ceiling by 4% to \$6.75/mmBtu, aligning with deregulation roadmap.
- Cost impact on CGD companies like IGL and MGL limited to 1.5-2%, and less than 1% for Gujarat Gas, due to APM deallocation.
- Short-term fluctuation; bullish outlook for gas sector remains intact, driven by India's energy transition goals.

**Dabur India Ltd** - 4QFY25 Business Update: Weak quarter; India FMCG portfolio (ex Food) declined in mid-single digits

- Industry demand trends continued to remain weak during the quarter, with rural markets continuing to grow faster than urban markets. General trade channel continues to remain under pressure.
- Barring Food & Badshah Masala range which grew in double digits, rest of India FMCG business is expected to decline in mid-single digits. Consolidated sales are expected to come in flattish yoy while EBITDA margins are expected to contract 150-175bp yoy.
- We expect domestic sales to decline 5% yoy in 4QFY25 while international business is expected to grow 9% yoy, leading to flattish yoy growth in 4QFY25. We expect EBITDA margins to contract 160bp yoy to 14.9%. Dabur is likely to close FY25 with a 3-4% lower EPS than ours/consensus estimates.

**Deepak Nitrite** - Phenol spreads are collapsing as phenol prices decline, while the drop in benzene prices is offset by falling acetone prices

- Phenol spreads are collapsing, and as the U.S. imposes more tariffs on Chinese products, the phenol market will face further oversupply. While input costs, particularly benzene, are moderating, the decline in acetone prices is offsetting the positive impact of easing costs
- The earnings estimate for Deepak appear unrealistic, with FY25 EPS forecasts around ₹50—implying ~₹14 per share in Q4FY25, which seems unlikely to be achieved. The EPS estimates for FY26/FY27F are dreams on an Excel sheet. However, don't expect the Bloomberg consensus to cut estimates even after a miss in Q4FY25F
- This commodity stock trades at a premium, with a price-to-book ratio of 4x (compared to around 2x for a fixed-ROE stock like NTPC) and a price-toearnings ratio near 40x. Even branded businesses with high entry barriers would struggle to achieve such valuations

GAIL Locks in LNG Supplies Amid India's Gas Push - But at What Cost? -Update on GAIL-Qatar Energy new contract

- GAIL secures 12 LNG cargoes/year from Qatar Energy at a premium, adding 0.4-0.6 mt to its 15 mtpa portfolio.
- Indian firms, including GAIL and IOC, sign multiple long-term LNG contracts, signaling confidence in gas demand growth.
- Strategic supply security vs. cost implications: a mixed bag for GAIL's nearterm financials but positive for long-term outlook.

SRF - R-32 prices have started to Fall in USA

- As we had indicated in our note published on 16th March 2025 was typical of supply hain squeeze which happens in a dying commodity. It rises fast and fizzles out faster. The same has happened in R-32 US export prices, this price rose to Rs 440/kg in February 2025 however has corrected by Rs 60/kg or around 14% from the peak.
- Consensus EPS is just too high and its unlikely that it will be achieved for FY25, FY26 or FY27F
- Reiterate SELL on SRF. Its one of the costliest commodities chemical stocks with no big earnings recovery in sight. SELL

## **InCred** Equities

## Actionable Ideas ➤ Top

### Figure 1: Top Buys (All ADD Ratings)

Company	Bloomberg Ticker	Market Capital (Rs bn)	Price	Target Price	Up/down (%)	Analyst Name
Large Cap						
HDFC Bank	HDFCB IN	13.750	1.797	2.150	200/	Meghna LUTHRA
Tata Consultancy Services	TCS IN	12.822	3,544	3.925		Abhishek SHINDADKAR
Bajaj Finance Ltd	BAFIN	5,374	8,669	9,750		Jignesh SHIAL
Maruti Suzuki	MSIL IN	3,684	11,716	14,261		Pramod AMTHE
UltraTech Cement Ltd		3,315	11,251	12,900		Nishant BAGRECHA
Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone Ltd		2,582	1.195	12,900		Rajarshi MAITRA
Bajaj Auto	BJAUT IN	2,362	8,073	10,590		Pramod AMTHE
Pidilite Industries Limited	PIDI IN	1,450	2,851	3,470		Rohan KALLE
Shriram Finance Limited	SHFL IN	1,430	639	800		Meghna LUTHRA
Cipla Ltd		1,202	1.452	1,640		Yogesh SONI
ABB India Ltd		1,175	5,313	7,627		Arafat SAIYED
Mid-cap	ADD IN	1,120	5,515	1,021	44 /0	Alalat SAITED
Lupin Ltd	LPC IN	918	2.010	2.329	16%	Yogesh SONI
Cummins India Ltd	KKC IN	846	3,052	3,909		Arafat SAIYED
Marico Ltd	MRCO IN	850	656	750		Rohan KALLE
Hero MotoCorp	HMCL IN	757	3.784	5.525		Pramod AMTHE
Bharat Forge	BHFC IN	551	1.153	1.407		Pramod AMTHE
Petronet LNG	PLNG IN	448	299	519		Pratyush KAMAL
Container Corp of India Ltd	CCRI IN	432	709	1,133		Rajarshi MAITRA
Small-cap	CONTIN	102	100	1,100	0070	
Ajanta Pharma Ltd	AJP IN	327	2.618	3.220	23%	Yogesh SONI
Deepak Fertilisers & Petrochemicals Corp. Ltd.	DFPC IN	147	1.161	2.051		Pratyush KAMAL
Birla Corporation Ltd	BCORP IN	84	1.094	1,455		Nishant BAGRECHA
Ethos Limited	ETHOSLTD IN	61	2,480	3,400		Rohan KALLE
Skipper Limited	SKIPPER IN	51	445	695		Ishan VERMA
TCPL Packaging Ltd	TCPL IN	40	4,444	4,380	-1%	Nishant BAGRECHA
Cyient DLM Ltd	CYIENTDL IN	36	452	818	81%	Arafat SAIYED
Globus Spirits Ltd	GBSL IN	31	1,086	1,584	46%	Nitin AWASTHI
					SOURCES	S: INCRED RESEARCH. BLOOMBE

### Figure 2: Top Sells (All REDUCE Ratings)

Company	Bloomberg Ticker	Market Capital (Rs bn)	Price	Target Price	Up/down (%)	Analyst Name
Large Cap						
Tata Steel	TATA IN	1,931	155	82	-47%	Satish KUMAR
InterGlobe Aviation Ltd	INDIGO IN	1,958	5,068	3,030	-40%	Rajarshi MAITRA
Mid-cap						
SBI Cards	SBICARD IN	815	857	550	-36%	Meghna LUTHRA
Clean Science and Technology	CLEAN IN	129	1,215	683	-44%	Satish KUMAR
					SOURCES	: INCRED RESEARCH, BLOOMBERG

InCred coverage universe

## **InCred** Equities

## Recent published research ➤ <u>Top</u>

Figure 3: Report	t links	
Date	Analyst	Report Title
01 Apr 2025	Meghna Luthra	Financial Services - Overall - Credit card players keep their guard up (Overweight-Maintained)
28 Mar 2025	Nishant Bagrecha	Constrn & Material - Overall - Anecdotes from cement & paint sectors (Overweight-Maintained)
27 Mar 2025	Nitin Awasthi	Agribusiness - Shrimpopedia: Mar 2025 (Overweight-Maintained)
26 Mar 2025	Nitin Awasthi	Agribusiness - Sugar sector faces unprecedented turmoil (Underweight-Maintained)
26 Mar 2025	Abhishek Shindadkar	Persistent Systems Ltd - No change in execution; bookings rigour (HOLD-Maintained)
26 Mar 2025	Satish Kumar	Strategy Note - Wither free trade, welcome to tariffs!
24 Mar 2025	Meghna Luthra	BFSI - Ears to the ground: Not for the faint hearted (Overweight-Maintained)
21 Mar 2025	Meghna Luthra	Financial Services - AMCs - Risk is a part of the business (Overweight-Maintained)
19 Mar 2025	Rohan Kalle	Pidilite Industries Limited - Analyst Day - Highlights (ADD-Maintained)
16 Mar 2025	Abhishek Shindadkar	Sonata Software - Understanding the impact on EA revenue (ADD-Upgrade)
15 Mar 2025	Satish Kumar	UPL Limited - Global agchem cycle is turning; retain ADD (ADD-Maintained)
14 Mar 2025	Satish Kumar	Strategy Note - Trouble in Pakistan – Is CPEC over?
12 Mar 2025	Meghna Luthra	Financial Services - AMCs - Volatility puts investment discipline to test (Overweight-Maintained)
11 Mar 2025	Satish Kumar	Ami Organics Ltd - EPS growth to taper down; retain REDUCE (REDUCE-Maintained)
06 Mar 2025	Bhavik Shah	Axis Bank - Concerns priced in; upgrade to ADD (ADD-Upgrade)
06 Mar 2025	Ishan Verma	Industrial Goods and Services - India power T&D biz - High-voltage growth (Overweight-Maintained)
06 Mar 2025	Pramod Amthe	Balkrishna Industries Ltd - Bhuj plant visit takeaways (ADD-Maintained)
05 Mar 2025	Pramod Amthe	Strategy Note - High conviction and doubler stock ideas
04 Mar 2025	Arafat Saiyed	Industrial - Overall - Assessing the scope of disruption in C&W (Under Review-Initiate)
03 Mar 2025	Pramod Amthe	Autos - Feb 2025 auto sales volume performance (Neutral-Maintained)

## Latest Quick Analysis > Top

Figure 4: Report	rt links	
Date	Analyst	Report Title
01 Apr 2025	Pratyush Kamal	Europe's Fertilizer Flame Flickers - Global Prices Set to Ignite
01 Apr 2025	Yogesh Soni	Healthcare - Diagnostics: Price Tracker - Online vs Traditional Models in India
31 Mar 2025	Bhavik Shah	Banks - Monthly sectoral credit trend by RBI – February 2025
28 Mar 2025	Shubham Dalia	New Age Technologies - Government to Disrupt Ride-Hailing Industry   Ola, Uber, Rapido Business Model Under Stress Soon
27 Mar 2025	Rohan Kalle	Consumer Staples - Overall - Demand weakness is expected to persist in the near term
27 Mar 2025	Pratyush Kamal	Coal India and GAIL's Joint Venture - A Costly Gamble on Synthetic Natural Gas
27 Mar 2025	Pratyush Kamal	Trump's Tariff on Venezuelan Oil Rattles India: Can It Weather the Storm?
26 Mar 2025	Pramod Amthe	Ashok Leyland - EV investment prioritised for high growth profitable India over UK losses
26 Mar 2025	Shubham Dalia	NVIDIA - Scaling Laws and the Future of AI Compute   Why NVIDIA's CEO mentioned "Almost the entire world got it wrong"
24 Mar 2025	Shubham Dalia	GenAI - GenAI is boosting software developer productivity by 26%   Less experienced software developers' productivity gains are around 40%
24 Mar 2025	Pratyush Kamal	PNGRB's Zone Division & Tariff Proposal Ignites GAIL's Stock Rally
24 Mar 2025	Pratyush Kamal	US LNG Projects Get Green Light: 31 mtpa Boost to Global Supply Amid Legal Battles
21 Mar 2025	Rajarshi Maitra	Domestic aviation (Feb 25) - Strong industry traffic; Tata regains some market share (up 133bps MoM) from IndiGo
21 Mar 2025	Pramod Amthe	Hero MotoCorp - Hero MotoCorp invests in E3&4W maker
21 Mar 2025	Abhishek Shindadkar	IT Services: Put and takes for Indian IT from Accenture 2QFY25 Earnings - Follow the bookings
21 Mar 2025	Ishan Verma	Power Sector - Monthly Update – Demand Recovers
19 Mar 2025	Rajarshi Maitra	IndiGo - Analyst meet takeaways
19 Mar 2025	Shubham Dalia	NVIDIA - GTC 2025 Keynote Report: Pioneering the AI Revolution
19 Mar 2025	Shubham Dalia	NVIDIA - China is now directly trying to remove dependency on NVIDIA's advance chips I Releases hardware independent inference framework   Boosts token throughput of A800
18 Mar 2025	Pratyush Kamal	Trade War Disrupts Global LNG Flows: China Shuns US Gas, Turns to Alternatives

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# **InCred** Equities

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Recommendation	Framework			
Stock Ratings	Definition:			
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.			
	return 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 e stock. Stock price targets have an investment horizon of 12 months.			
Sector Ratings	Definition:			
Overweight	An Overweight rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a positive absolute recommendation.			
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.			
Country Ratings	Definition:			
Overweight	An Overweight rating means investors should be positioned with an above-market weight in this country relative to benchmark.			
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.			