



India

HOLD (no change)

Sell 5 Buy 23 Hold 9 Consensus ratings*: Current price: Rs207 Rs228 Target price: Previous target: Rs240 Up/downside: 10.1% InCred Research / Consensus: -14.4% PLNG.NS Reuters: PLNG IN Bloombera: US\$4,053m Market cap: Rs309,975m

US\$7.3m

Rs556.6m

1,500.0m

50.0%

Key changes in this note

Average daily turnover:

Current shares o/s:

Free float:

*Source: Bloomberg

- > We shift to P/E-based valuation.
- We value Petronet LNG at 11.5x FY24F EPS to arrive at our TP of Rs228.



		Source: E	Bloomberg
Price performance	1M	ЗМ	12M
Absolute (%)	6.1	(2.9)	(7.4)
Relative (%)	6.4	(1.8)	(22.5)

Major shareholders	% held
BPCL/GAIL/IOC/ONGC each	12.5
FMR LLC	5.3
Republic of Singapore	3.7

Petronet LNG

We cut EPS estimates; retain Hold

- In the current global backdrop, consensus hopes of increased capacity utilization of regasification terminals of Petronet LNG are misplaced.
- Given the world's propensity to supply Europe first so that it can gain energy independence from Russia, LNG prices and their slope will remain high.
- Because of global turmoil, we shift to near-term P/E-based valuation. We value Petronet LNG at 11.5x FY24F EPS to arrive at our TP of Rs228. Retain Hold.

Risk of lower capacity utilization emanates

In the current backdrop of the global LNG crisis, consensus hopes of increased capacity utilization of regasification terminals of Petronet LNG are misplaced. We know for sure that for the next two-to-three years, LNG will be in short supply in the international market, but we don't know how the global scenario will change after two-to-three years. The European quest to move away from Russian gas has two components: 1) Start coal-fired plants which can save ~90mt of natural gas. 2) Increase imports of LNG from the global market. We estimate that over next three years, Europe will come as a new buyer of ~60mt LNG from international market. Given the current global liquefaction capacity, all these plants need to operate at ~100% utilization level for the next four years - something that is difficult for a sustained period. This in turn means that there will frequent shortage of LNG in global market and the slope will remain elevated. Elevated slope has two aspects: 1) In a higher crude oil price scenario, LNG will be extremely costly and hence, there is volume risk. 2) In a lower crude oil price scenario, its attractiveness will be lesser with comparative fuels and hence, lower volume. Consensus earnings are at risk, but to some extent it's priced in and hence, we retain Hold rating on Petronet LNG.

We shift to P/E-based valuation

In the above-mentioned scenario, discounted cash flow or DCF-based valuation has no meaning and that's why we shift to P/E-based valuation. We cut our earnings estimates and we forecast EPS CAGR of -1.3% over FY22-25F. Our below consensus EPS estimates can also have a downside as we still don't know how volume growth will pan out. Even if the pipeline to Kochi is ready, we are sure that at Rs100/SCM there will be hardly any buyers for LNG. Transporting LNG through specialized vehicles is too costly in a higher crude oil price environment. With so much of uncertainty, forecasting the next quarter's EPS is fraught with a huge risk, forget about multi-year cash flow projections. We have valued the stock at -1SD of the long-term one-year forward mean EPS. We have valued Petronet LNG at 11.5x FY24F EPS to arrive at our revised target price of Rs228 (from Rs240 earlier). We retain Hold rating on the stock. **Risks:** 1) Sudden, though extremely unlikely, thaw in Europe-Russia relationship can present a significant upside risk to our EPS estimates and hence, target price. 2) We have assumed that Europe will start coal-fired plants but if its unable to do so, then gas prices and its slope can go even higher and hence, LNG volume for Petronet LNG may decline significantly.

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Financial Summary	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
Revenue (Rsm)	354,520	260,230	415,232	451,557	454,277
Operating EBITDA (Rsm)	39,174	46,996	50,987	45,117	47,283
Net Profit (Rsm)	27,034	29,392	32,856	28,166	29,826
Core EPS (Rs)	18.0	19.6	21.9	18.8	19.9
Core EPS Growth	21.2%	8.7%	11.8%	(14.3%)	5.9%
FD Core P/E (x)	11.47	10.55	9.43	11.01	10.39
DPS (Rs)	12.5	11.5	11.5	11.0	12.0
Dividend Yield	5.83%	7.26%	5.08%	5.37%	5.61%
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.75	6.15	5.50	6.05	5.88
P/FCFE (x)	16.42	9.36	16.81	17.36	50.69
Net Gearing	(5.7%)	(17.6%)	(21.9%)	(25.3%)	(20.0%)
P/BV (x)	2.79	2.63	2.29	2.11	1.95
ROE	25.3%	25.6%	25.9%	20.0%	19.5%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates				(9.78%)	(11.98%)
InCred Research/Consensus EPS (x)			1.03	0.90	0.89

SOURCES: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS





We cut EPS estimates; retain Hold

Asset details

Petronet LNG has two main assets - Dahej and Kochi terminals. The company has 17.5mt regas capacity in Dahej and 5mt capacity in Kochi. The long-term gas tie-up for these terminals is 7.5mt for Dahej and 1.4mt for Kochi. Various companies have booked regas capacity at take-or-pay contracts at Dahej terminal, but not at Kochi.

Dahej and Kochi terminal details >

Petronet LNG has set up India's first LNG receiving and regasification terminal at Dahej, Gujarat, and another terminal at Kochi, Kerala. Dahej and Kochi terminals collectively supply 70MMSMD. While the Dahej terminal has a nominal capacity of 17.5MMTPA, the Kochi terminal has a capacity of 5MMTPA.

Figure 1: Details of Dahej and Kochi terminals						
Contract Type	Contract Parties	Period up to	Sourcing/ Delivery			
Gas Sales and Purchase Agreement (GSPA)	Ras Gas of Qatar	2028	7.5mt			
Gas Sales and Purchase Agreement (GSPA)	Mobil Australia Resource Company	2035	1.425mt			
Long-term/short-term/spot basis	ONGC Limited for extraction	2028	0.973mt			
Regasification services agreements	GAIL	2036	2.5mt			
Regasification services agreements	IOCL	2036	1.5mt			
Regasification services agreements	BPCL	2036	1mt			
Spot/Short-term	GAIL, IOCL, BPCL, ONGC & affiliates	-	-			
	SOURCES: INCRED	RESEARCH, COM	PANY REPORTS			

Company has entered into the following long-term LNG purchase agreements: ➤

- 1. 7.5mt with Ras Laffan Liquified Natural Gas Company Limited (2), Qatar for the period up to Apr 2028.
- 2. 1.44mt with Mobil Australia Resources Company Pty Ltd, Australia for the period up to 2035.
- 3. Balance sourcing on a spot/short-term basis.
- Since the company has entered into materially back-to-back sale agreements against the above purchase agreements, there is no foreseeable loss on these agreements.
- The company has issued a Standby Letter of Credit of Rs31bn to Ras Laffan Liquified Natural Gas Company Limited and Rs8.1bn to Mobil Australia Resource Company PTY Ltd against the long-term purchase agreements.

Agreements for sale of natural gas and regasified natural gas >

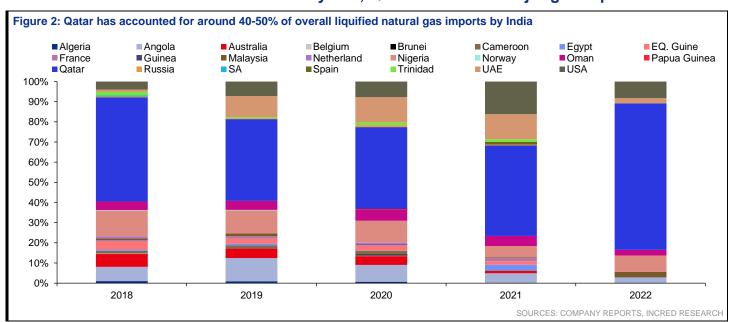
- Gas sales and purchase agreement (GSPA) of 7.5mt (as amended from time to time) entered in 2003 with GAIL, IOCL, and BPCL, in the ratio of 60:30:10 respectively, with validity till 2028.
 - a. These agreements have been entered as back-to-back arrangements for LNG sale and purchase agreements from Ras Gas of Qatar. The longterm sales agreements are materially back-to-back in terms of duration, quantity, price, foreign exchange fluctuation, etc., in line with the longterm LNG purchase contracts.
- Gas sales and purchase agreement (GSPA) of 1.425mt (as amended from time to time), entered in 2010 with BPCL, IOCL, and GAIL, in the ratio of 40:30:30 respectively, with validity till 2035.
 - a. These agreements have been entered as back-to-back arrangements for LNG sale and purchase agreements from Mobil Australia Resource Company. The long-term sales agreements are materially back-to-back in terms of duration, quantity, price, foreign exchange fluctuation, etc., in line with the long-term LNG purchase contracts.



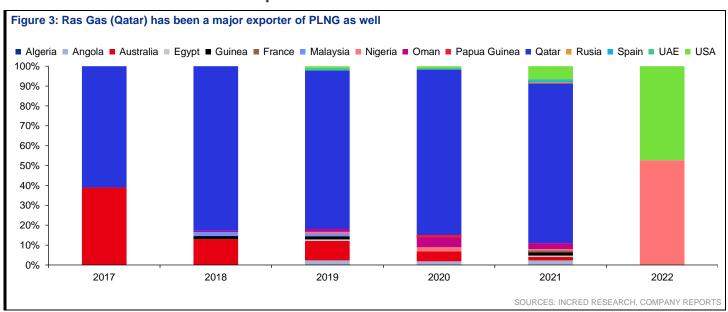


- The company also has an agreement with ONGC Limited for extraction of higher hydrocarbons from LNG imported, which is replenished through LNG sourced on a long-term/short-term/spot basis and is valid till 2028. This contract is for a volume of up to 0.973mt.
- 4. The company also has long-term capacity regasification services agreements including an agreement for 2.5mt capacity with GAIL, 1.5mt with IOCL, and 1mt with BPCL at Dahej terminal, valid till 2036. These long-term capacity regasification agreements are firm commitment contracts, on a use-or-pay basis.
- Further, the company also supplies LNG/RLNG to the above said related parties on a spot/short-term basis from time to time in its normal course of business. In addition, the company also provides regasification and other related services to GAIL, IOCL, BPCL, ONGC, and their affiliates.

Over the years, Qatar has been a major gas exporter to India >



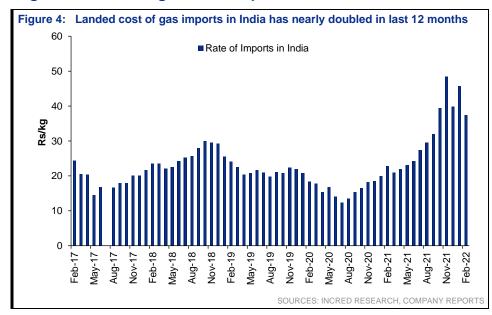
For PLNG as well, Qatar has been a major source of gas imports ➤



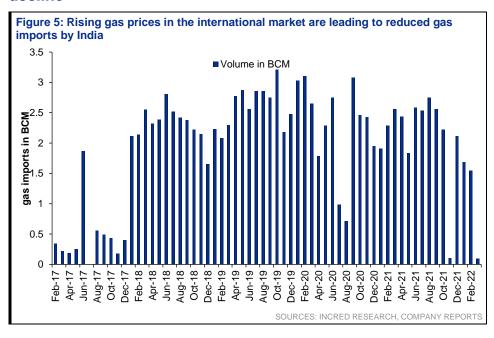




Landed cost of gas (excluding taxes) has been rising, which is negative for Indian gas consumption ➤



Hence, it's natural that gas imports in India are on the decline ➤

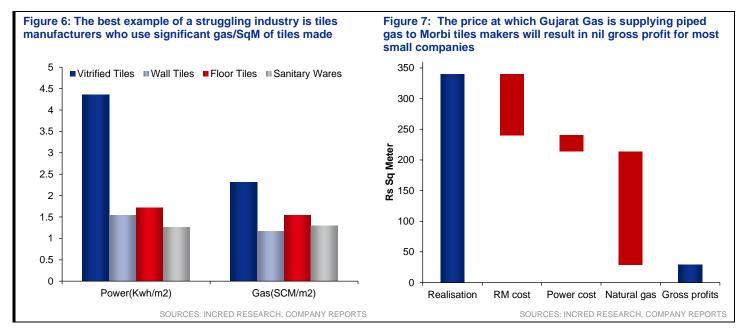


Current prices are making gas usage difficult for domestic users ➤

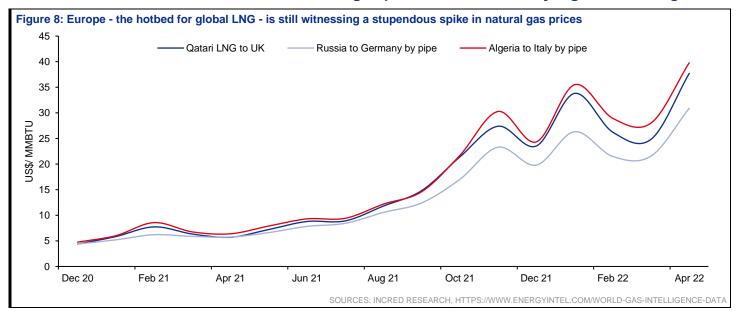
Industrial and power sector gas users will suffer immensely because of the high prices of gas. The power sector cannot operate at the landed cost of LNG in India and neither do the biggest industrial users - tiles manufacturers.







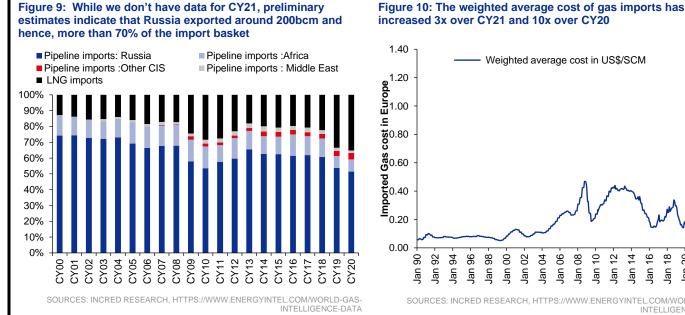
International gas prices don't show any signs of cooling >

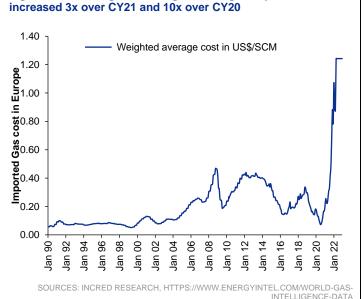


Europe needs all the help it can get to tide over the current crisis ▶

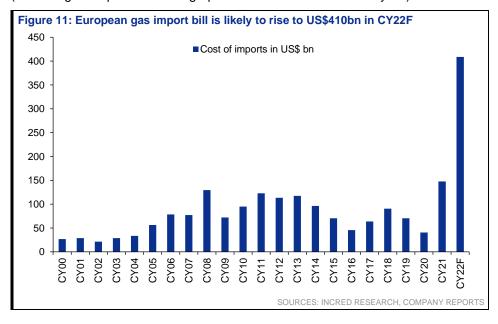
80% of European gas imports are from Russia and it has been the case for the last several years. It's difficult to believe that Europe was heavily dependent on Russia all the time and didn't read the warning signals.







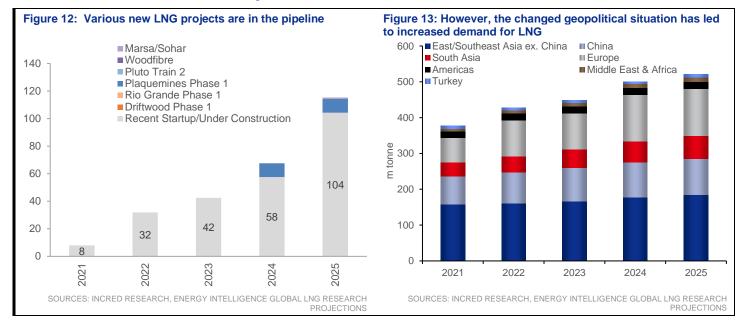
This means assuming the same average mix of gas sourcing as the average of the last five years, Europe's gas import bill will rise to US\$410bn in CY22F (assuming the Apr 2022 average price holds the for rest of the year).



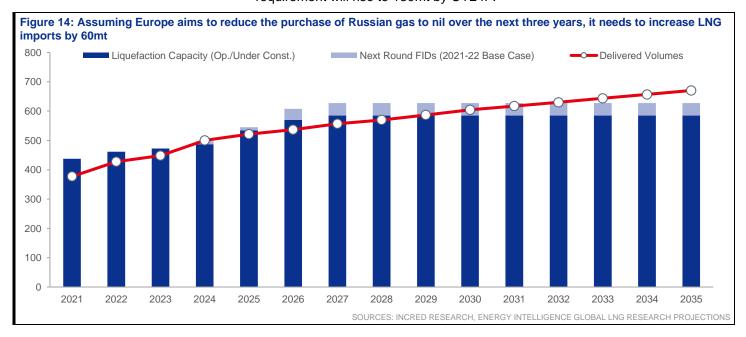




Europe can reduce Russian gas imports by starting thermal plants and increasing LNG imports by 60mt over the next three years ▶



For projecting demand-supply, we have assumed European LNG supply to peak out at 130mt by 2023F (we have inherently assumed that Europe will try to reduce dependence on Russian gas). Starting of thermal power plants will reduce gas requirement by 94mt and over the period of the time renewables will take the place of coal-fired plants. However, Europe still needs to reduce Russian gas imports by 60mt over a two-to-three years' timeframe, and hence, in our view, LNG requirement will rise to 130mt by CY24F.

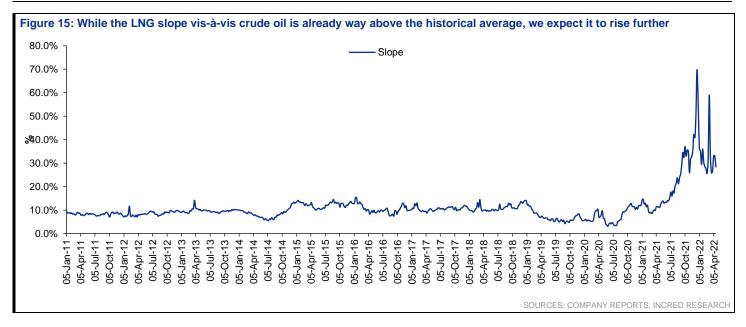


This means that the demand-supply situation for LNG is extremely tight, and the LNG slope can explode ➤

Fig.14 indicates that to balance the market, global LNG capacity needs to operate at near 100% utilization for the next four years. It's just not possible to operate these kinds of plants for such a long time at a 100% capacity utilization level. The end result is an inevitable shortage of LNG which can lead a to rise in LNG slope.





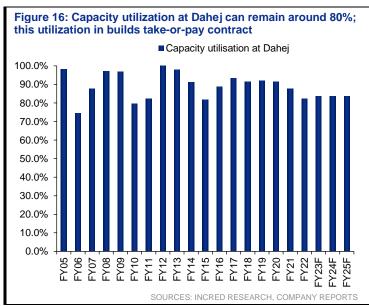


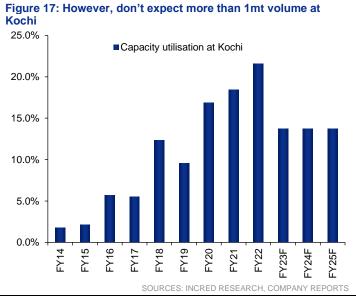
At such a high slope, domestic LNG demand may suffer >

At US\$30/MMBtu price, most Indian gas users won't be able to operate their businesses. While crude oil prices can fall, don't expect LNG prices to decline visà-vis crude oil. With the fall in crude oil price, expect the LNG slope to only rise. At US\$30/MMBtu price, importing LNG doesn't make sense.

This in turn means that the capacity utilization of Petronet LNG terminals cannot rise ➤

We don't believe Ras Gas can renege on its long-term contract with Petronet LNG. One can expect 8.5mt of gas volume for Ras Gas, but increased capacity utilization at the Kochi terminal can remain a challenge.





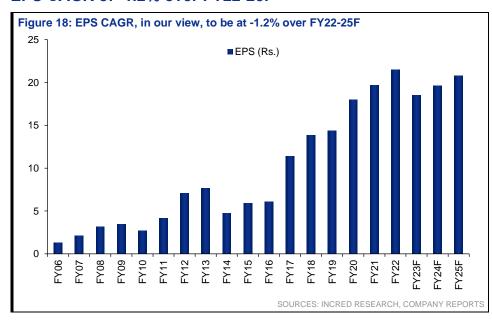




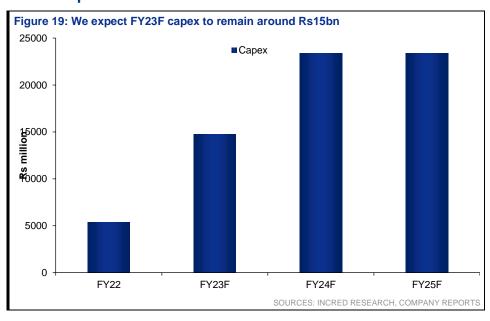
Earnings and valuation

We expect an earnings CAGR of -1.2 % over FY22F-25F. Our earnings projection assumes at least 8.5mt of supply from Ras Gas and if there is any decline in domestic demand, then volume can fall as well. Our earnings estimates assume take-or-pay revenue at a contractual minimum level. We value the stock at a historical average P/E of 11.7x.

EPS CAGR of -1.2% over FY22-25F ➤



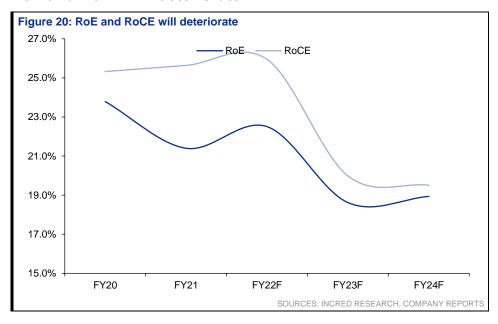
FY23F capex to remain around Rs15bn ➤







RoE and RoCE will deteriorate ➤



On an average, the stock trades at a P/E of 13.6x but given the lack of EPS growth, it can remain at -1 SD ➤



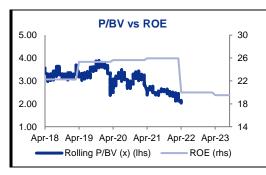
We have valued Petronet LNG at 11.5xFY24F EPS to arrive at our target price of Rs228 ➤

Figure 22: We value the stock at -1 SD of long-term P/E to arrive at a TP of Rs228			
	Value	Units	
FY23F EPS	18.78	Rs/share	
FY24F EPS	19.88	Rs/share	
P/E multiple	11.50	Х	
Target price	228.0	Rs/share	
	SOURCES: COMPANY REPOR	TS, INCRED RESEARCH	





BY THE NUMBERS





(Rs mn)	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
Total Net Revenues	354,520	260,230	415,232	451,557	454,277
Gross Profit	49,561	53,415	59,052	52,924	55,475
Operating EBITDA	39,174	46,996	50,987	45,117	47,283
Depreciation And Amortisation	(7,761)	(7,841)	(7,692)	(7,842)	(7,842)
Operating EBIT	31,413	39,155	43,294	37,275	39,441
Financial Income/(Expense)	(4,032)	(3,360)	(3,164)	(3,139)	(3,120)
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	148	189	630	400	400
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	3,636	3,591	2,953	2,984	3,019
Profit Before Tax (pre-EI)	31,164	39,575	43,713	37,520	39,740
Exceptional Items					
Pre-tax Profit	31,164	39,575	43,713	37,520	39,740
Taxation	(4,131)	(10,183)	(10,857)	(9,354)	(9,914)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	27,034	29,392	32,856	28,166	29,826
Minority Interests					
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	27,034	29,392	32,856	28,166	29,826
Recurring Net Profit	27,034	29,392	32,856	28,166	29,826
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	27,034	29,392	32,856	28,166	29,826

Cash Flow					
(Rs mn)	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
EBITDA	39,174	46,996	50,987	45,117	47,283
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.	3,783	3,780	3,583	3,384	3,419
Change In Working Capital	(4,840)	(980)	(9,983)	3,133	(1,834)
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow	(47)	(33)			
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	(4,032)	(3,360)	(3,164)	(3,139)	(3,120)
Tax Paid	(8,608)	(10,260)	(10,771)	(9,280)	(9,835)
Cashflow From Operations	25,431	36,144	30,651	39,216	35,913
Capex	(39,515)	660	(5,360)	(14,740)	(23,400)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries					
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments	(34)	106	(630)	(400)	(400)
Other Investing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Investing	(39,550)	766	(5,990)	(15,140)	(23,800)
Debt Raised/(repaid)	32,997	(3,801)	(6,217)	(6,217)	(5,998)
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares					
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(18,083)	(22,500)	(15,750)	(16,650)	(17,400)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Financing	14,914	(26,301)	(21,967)	(22,867)	(23,398)
Total Cash Generated	795	10,608	2,695	1,209	(11,285)
Free Cashflow To Equity	18,878	33,108	18,445	17,859	6,115
Free Cashflow To Firm	(10,087)	40,270	27,825	27,215	15,233

SOURCES: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS







BY THE NUMBERS...cont'd

Balance Sheet					
(Rs mn)	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
Total Cash And Equivalents	46,667	57,275	59,969	61,178	49,892
Total Debtors	16,026	18,745	28,441	24,743	24,892
Inventories	4,809	3,372	5,254	5,822	5,864
Total Other Current Assets	5,916	4,866	5,314	5,809	6,354
Total Current Assets	73,417	84,258	98,978	97,552	87,001
Fixed Assets	111,929	103,427	101,095	107,993	123,551
Total Investments	3,323	3,218	3,848	4,248	4,648
Intangible Assets					
Total Other Non-Current Assets					
Total Non-current Assets	115,252	106,645	104,943	112,241	128,198
Short-term Debt					
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	27,916	26,515	29,011	29,509	28,411
Other Current Liabilities					
Total Current Liabilities	27,916	26,515	29,011	29,509	28,411
Total Long-term Debt	40,331	36,530	30,313	24,097	18,099
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities					
Total Non-current Liabilities	40,331	36,530	30,313	24,097	18,099
Total Provisions	9,213	9,789	9,422	9,496	9,575
Total Liabilities	77,460	72,834	68,747	63,103	56,085
Shareholders Equity	111,209	118,069	135,175	146,691	159,116
Minority Interests					
Total Equity	111,209	118,069	135,175	146,691	159,116

Key Ratios					
	Mar-20A	Mar-21A	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
Revenue Growth	(7.7%)	(26.6%)	59.6%	8.7%	0.6%
Operating EBITDA Growth	18.9%	20.0%	8.5%	(11.5%)	4.8%
Operating EBITDA Margin	11.0%	18.1%	12.3%	10.0%	10.4%
Net Cash Per Share (Rs)	4.22	13.83	19.77	24.72	21.20
BVPS (Rs)	74.14	78.71	90.12	97.79	106.08
Gross Interest Cover	7.79	11.65	13.68	11.88	12.64
Effective Tax Rate	13.3%	25.7%	24.8%	24.9%	24.9%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	66.9%	76.6%	47.9%	59.1%	58.3%
Accounts Receivables Days	15.37	24.38	20.74	21.49	19.94
Inventory Days	6.29	7.22	4.42	5.07	5.35
Accounts Payables Days	34.19	48.03	28.45	26.79	26.51
ROIC (%)	21.2%	28.2%	29.2%	24.3%	22.3%
ROCE (%)	24.7%	26.4%	27.4%	22.7%	23.2%
Return On Average Assets	17.6%	16.8%	17.8%	14.8%	15.1%

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 2021, Anti-Corruption 2021

ADVANC - Excellent, Certified, AMATA - Excellent, Certified, ANAN - Excellent, n/a, AOT - Excellent, n/a, AP - Excellent, Certified, ASP - Excellent, n/a, AWC - Excellent, Declared, AU - Good, n/a, BAM - Very Good, Certified, BAY - Excellent, Certified, BBL - Excellent, Certified, BCH - Very Good, Certified, BCP - Excellent, Certified, BCPG - Excellent, Certified, BDMS - Excellent, n/a, BEAUTY - Good, n/a, BEM - Excellent, n/a BH -Good, n/a, BJC - Very Good, n/a, BLA - Very Good, Certified, BTS - Excellent, Certified, CBG - Very Good, n/a, CCET - n/a, n/a, CENTEL -Excellent, Certified, CHAYO - Very Good, n/a, CHG - Very Good, n/a, CK - Excellent, n/a, COM7 - Excellent, Certified, CPALL - Excellent, Certified, CPF - Excellent, Certified, CPN - Excellent, Certified, CPNREIT - n/a, n/a, CRC - Excellent, Declared, DELTA - Excellent, Certified, DDD - Excellent, n/a, DIF - n/a, n/a, DOHOME - Very Good, Declared, DREIT - n/a, n/a, DTAC - Excellent, Certified, ECL - Excellent, Certified, EGCO - Excellent, Certified, EPG - Excellent, Certified, ERW - Very Good, Certified, GFPT - Excellent, Certified, GGC - Excellent, Certified, GLOBAL - Excellent, n/a, HANA - Excellent, Certified, HMPRO - Excellent, Certified, HUMAN - Good, n/a, ICHI - Excellent, Certified, III - Excellent, Declared, INTUCH -Excellent, Certified, IRPC - Excellent, Certified, ITD - Very Good, n/a, IVL - Excellent, Certified, JASIF - n/a, n/a, JKN - n/a, Certified, JMT - Very Good, n/a, KBANK - Excellent, Certified, KCE - Excellent, Certified, KEX - Very Good, Declared, KKP - Excellent, Certified, KSL - Excellent, Certified, KTB - Excellent, Certified, KTC - Excellent, Certified, LH - Excellent, n/a, LPN - Excellent, Certified, M - Very Good, Certified, MAKRO - Excellent, Certified, MC - Excellent, Certified, MEGA - Very Good, n/a, MINT - Excellent, Certified, MTC - Excellent, Certified, NETBAY - Very Good, n/a, NRF - Very Good, Declared, OR - Excellent, n/a, ORI - Excellent, Certified, OSP - Excellent, n/a, PLANB - Excellent, Certified, PRINC - Very Good, Certified, PR9 - Excellent, Declared, PSH - Excellent, Certified, PTT - Excellent, Certified, PTTP - Excellent, n/a, PTTGC - Excellent, Certified, QH Excellent, Certified, RAM - n/a, n/a, RBF - Very Good, n/a, RS - Excellent, Declared, RSP - Good, n/a, S - Excellent, n/a, SAK - Very Good, Declared, SAPPE - Very Good, Certified, SAWAD - Very Good, n/a, SCB - Excellent, Certified, SCC - Excellent, Certified, SCGP - Excellent, Declared, SECURE - n/a, n/a, SHR - Excellent, n/a, SIRI - Excellent, Certified, SPA - Very Good, n/a, SPALI - Excellent, Certified, SPRC - Excellent, Certified, SSP - Good, Certified, STEC - Excellent, n/a, SVI - Excellent, Certified, SYNEX - Very Good, Certified, TCAP - Excellent, Certified, THANI - Excellent, Certified, TIDLOR - n/a, Certified TISCO - Excellent, Certified, TKN - Very Good, n/a, TOP - Excellent, Certified, TRUE - Excellent, Certified, TTB - Excellent, Certified, TU - Excellent, Certified, TVO - Excellent, Certified, VGI - Excellent, Certified, WHA - Excellent, Certified. WHART - n/a, n/a, WICE - Excellent, Certified, WORK - Good, n/a.

- CG Score 2021 from Thai Institute of Directors Association (IOD)
- Companies participating in Thailand's Private Sector Collective Áction Coalition Against Corruption programme (Thai CAC) under Thai Institute of Directors (as of August 5, 2021) are categorised into: companies that have declared their intention to join CAC, and companies certified by CAC.

Recommendation Framework	
Stock Ratings	Definiti

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.

The total expected 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 dividend yields of the 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.