

# India

#### Neutral (no change)

#### **Highlighted Companies**

## UltraTech Cement Ltd ADD, TP Rs9500, Rs9671 close

We see UltraTech Cement as a key beneficiary of the healthy capex allocation for FY24F, aided by timely significant addition of new capacity, potential recovery in profitability and the company's strong presence in all markets across India. We also view the company's financial leverage as manageable.

#### Dalmia Bharat Ltd ADD, TP Rs2570, Rs2346 close

Dalmia Bharat's operations are diversified across regions with a major presence in the eastern and southern regions, while its execution capability reflects cost leadership. We expect sustained volume growth outperformance vs. industry in the medium- to long-term, driven by the company's aggressive expansion plan.

# Birla Corporation Ltd

#### ADD, TP Rs1500, Rs1434 close

Aided by healthy demand and the capacity ramp-up of its Mukutban unit, Birla Corporation targets ~15% volume growth in FY24F, with EBITDA/t of Rs850 on easing fuel costs and cost-optimization measures.

#### **Summary Valuation Metrics**

P/E (X)	Mar24-F	Mar25-F	Mar26-F
UltraTech Cement Ltd	36.66	31.17	26.92
Dalmia Bharat Ltd	48.9	41.06	29.71
Birla Corporation Ltd	28.49	19.78	14.57
P/BV (x)	Mar24-F	Mar25-F	Mar26-F
UltraTech Cement Ltd	4.63	4.15	3.7
Dalmia Bharat Ltd	2.67	2.52	2.34
Birla Corporation Ltd	1.76	1.64	1.51
Dividend Yield	Mar24-F	Mar25-F	Mar26-F
UltraTech Cement Ltd	0.49%	0.58%	0%
Dalmia Bharat Ltd	0.2%	0.19%	0.24%
Birla Corporation Ltd	0.72%	1.04%	1.41%

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# **Constrn & Material - Overall**

# Some anecdotes on cement & paint sectors

- Cement & paint sectors' volume largely moved in tandem over the last decade.
   New construction in the realty & infrastructure sectors is likely to be healthy.
- The demand for cement is likely to remain strong. Prices are generally soft, despite strong demand, but this time they have also remained range-bound.
- We are overweight on the cement sector and underweight on paints. ADD Ultratech, Dalmia Bharat and Birla Corp. REDUCE Asian Paints & KNPL.

# Cement and paint sectors' volumes largely move in tandem

Over the last decade, our analysis of the volumes of paint and cement players indicates that volume growth for both these sectors plays out in tandem. Paint majors have been stepping up their focus on the projects business (c.5-10% of respective decorative segments), which have been yielding healthy results when construction activity in real estate and infrastructure projects witnesses a visible uptick.

# Similar pattern observed in cement as well as paints post elections

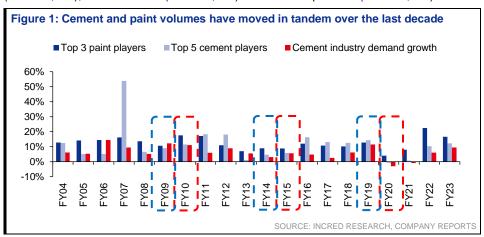
Our paint pack's volume was 5.7% above the 15-year average of 12% in 2009 but have been lower by 3.1%/7.9% after the 2014 & 2019 election years, respectively. On a quarterly basis, Asian Paints saw a gradual yoy uptick in FY10 but in the quarters of FY15 & FY19, a decelerating trend was visible, which was more pronounced in the second-half of the respective years. The top five cement players also showed a similar trend, of 5.7% above their 15-year average of 10% after the 2009 elections but lower by 4%/10.6% post 2014/2019 elections, respectively.

## Demand for cement likely to remain stronger than paints

Our analysis of the cement sector around the past three general elections indicates a strong demand uptick during the elections, which is visible in the current scenario as well with robust demand throughout the year. Prices are generally soft, despite strong demand, but this time the prices also remained range-bound due to higher cost inflation. Cement stocks tend to outperform in the run-up to the elections and underperform thereafter (refer Figs. 11-22) in the past two elections, which is likely to reverse this time on the back of huge consolidation in the sector. Cement demand remains strong on the back of housing and infrastructure development, which is helping the absorption of new capacity.

#### Paint space getting crowded; cement sector sees consolidation

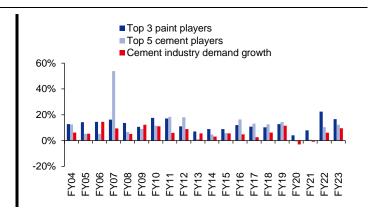
With Grasim's foray into paints likely to create ripples in the industry and the current demand scenario, we retain our HOLD rating on Berger Paints (TP: Rs600) & Pidilite (TP: Rs2,545) and a REDUCE rating on Kansai Nerolac Paints (TP: Rs305) & Asian Paints (TP: Rs3,000) as we see limited upside in the near term. With the benefit of strong pricing in 3Q, operating leverage and better volume, we believe the margins will continue to improve for cement players in 2HFY24F. We retain our overweight stance on the sector from a medium-term perspective. Within the cement pack, we have an ADD rating on Ultratech Cement (TP: Rs9,500), Dalmia Bharat (TP: Rs2,570) and Birla Corporation (TP: Rs1,500).



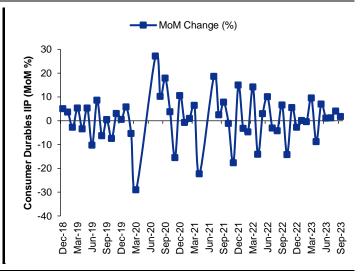


# **KEY CHARTS**

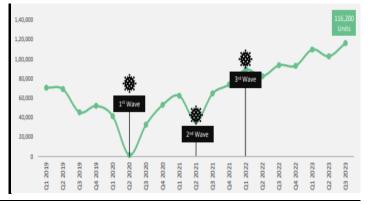
Cement and paint volumes have largely been moving in tandem on a quarterly basis over the last decade.



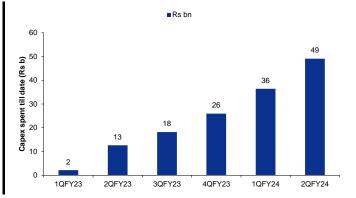
The declining trend has been moderating on a mom basis since Oct 2022. Berger Paints has been calling out weakness in demand from the fan industry for powder coatings since Sep 2022, which improved only in Sep 2023. Management expects this performance to continue in 3QFY24F as well, driven by improvement in the fan industry, which, as per media reports, is witnessing green shoots in demand led by increased housing renovation activity in the urban and rural markets.



As per the latest pan-India report on residential real estate by consultancy firm Anarock, during the quarter, the top-7 cities saw an influx of new housing units, touching 116.2k units, up 24%/13% yoy/qoq, respectively, primarily led by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Pune and Hyderabad.



As of end-Sep 2023, Grasim has spent Rs49bn (49% of its planned outlay) on its paint business and has received approvals for its Panipat, Ludhiana and Cheyyar plants which are likely to commence production from 4QFY24F. Grasim is likely to be a bigger threat, in terms of a new entrant, than players who have announced entry into the paint sector earlier, given the group's strong distribution reach in cement and putty, because of which Birla Opus, in our view, will be able to garner a strong distribution reach in the shortest time.



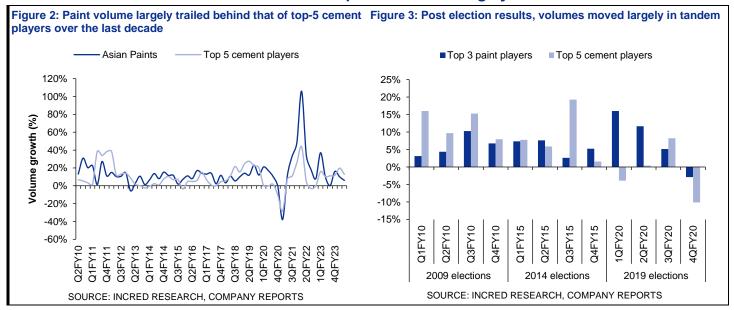
SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



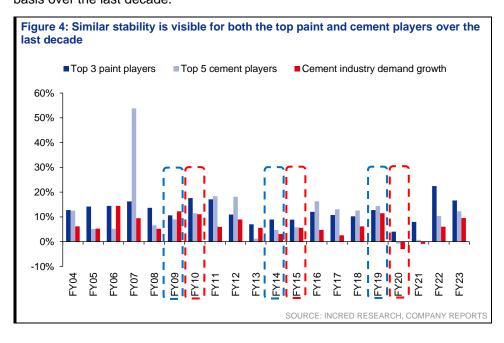
# Some anecdotes on cement & paint sectors

# **Diving into history**

# Cement and paint volumes largely move in tandem ▶

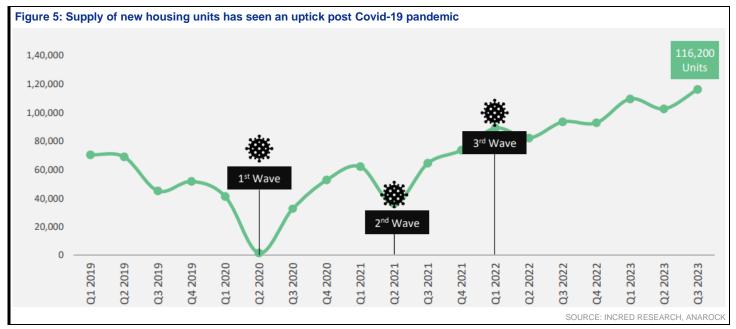


Cement and paint volumes have largely been moving in tandem on a quarterly basis over the last decade.





New launches of residential projects remained on an upswing post Covid-19 pandemic, which augurs well for the projects division **▶** 



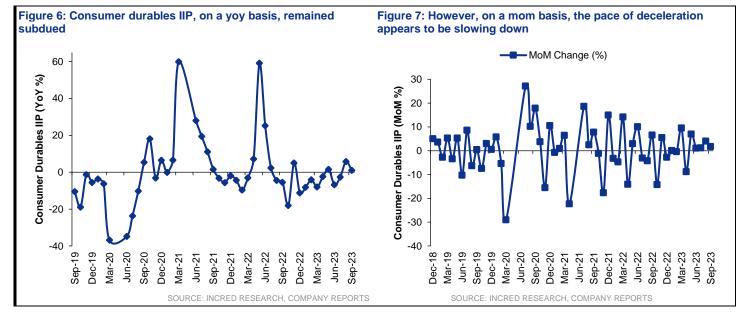
As per the latest pan-India report on residential real estate by Anarock, during the quarter, the top-7 cities saw an influx of new housing units, touching 116.2k units, up 24%/13% yoy/qoq, respectively, primarily led by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Pune and Hyderabad.

Over the last few quarters, all paint & adhesive majors have been calling out healthy growth in their respective projects division, aided by the recovery in real estate and infrastructure sectors. During the 2QFY24 earnings call, Pidilite's management stated that the project business industry is growing at 10-12% in volume terms aided by large infrastructure projects, housing projects as well as repairs/renovations. Similar commentary was observed from paint players as well, reporting a healthy growth in the projects division.

Cement demand CAGR improved in the last two years, with a growth of 10%; This was led by a pick-up in infrastructure activity and project launches in the urban residential segment. Demand slows typically post elections, but any recovery in rural-led demand could sustain the current growth momentum. We factor in  $\sim$ 7-8% volume CAGR over the next two years on a high base.



## Industrial business >



India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) of consumer durables has remained subdued for the last few years. The declining trend has been moderating on a mom basis since Oct 2022. Berger Paints has been calling out weakness in demand from the fan industry for powder coatings since Sep 2022, which improved only in Sep 2023. Management expects this performance to continue in 3QFY24F as well, driven by improvement in the fan industry, which, as per media reports, is witnessing green shoots in demand led by increased housing renovation activity in the urban and rural markets. The fan industry was clocking flattish growth over the last two years in volume terms, which is now gradually improving as the category is witnessing an increase in penetration in rural penetration aided by increased electrification and the shift to the organized sector while in urban markets, the replacement cycle is getting shorter due to premiumization.

# Feedback from paint channel check >

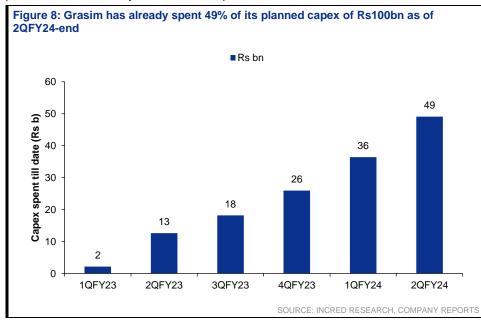
We conducted a channel check with dealers across paint majors in the last one week. The feedback we received indicates that dealers expect 3QFY24F to witness healthy demand, with an improvement in rural markets as well as improvement in the realty market. Given the higher competitive intensity expected with Grasim's entry in this business from 4QFY24F, dealers expect a higher rebating intensity from paint majors, especially at the mass-end, as players try to fill their shelves in the channel ahead of the launch of Birla Opus. Pidilite is not likely to compete with a similar intensity in its paint segment and is not expected to increase the rebates for the same.

Over the last few months, Grasim has been conducting surveys across dealers who stock Birla Putty, with a high focus on understanding the influencer community. We expect them to start poaching small dealers first before onboarding large dealers.



# Status of new entrant Grasim with its Birla Opus brand >

As of end-Sep 2023, Grasim spent Rs49bn (49% of the planned outlay) on its paint business and has received approvals for its Panipat, Ludhiana and Cheyyar plants which are likely to commence production from 4QFY24F.



Grasim aims to create a strong brand with 'Birla Opus', aiming for the second spot in the industry, and is currently trying to establish a pan-India distribution and sales network. It has launched Italian wood finishes under 'Allwood' and field tests are currently being conducted. It has also launched 'PaintCraft', its painting service across eight major cities.

Grasim is likely to be a bigger threat, in terms of a new entrant, than players who have announced their entry into the paint sector earlier, given the group's strong distribution reach in cement and putty, because of which Birla Opus, in our view, will be able to garner a strong distribution reach in the shortest time.

Figure 9: Capacity breakup at Cheyyar a	and Mahad	d faciliti	es
MLPA	Cheyyar	Mahad	Ludhiana
Water-based paints (incl. distempers) & colourants	500	400	300
Water-based paints (incl. distempers) & colourants Solvent-based paints (incl. wood finish)	100	100	60
Emulsions	180	150	120
Resins	70	70	40
Thinners	25		
Total	875	720	520
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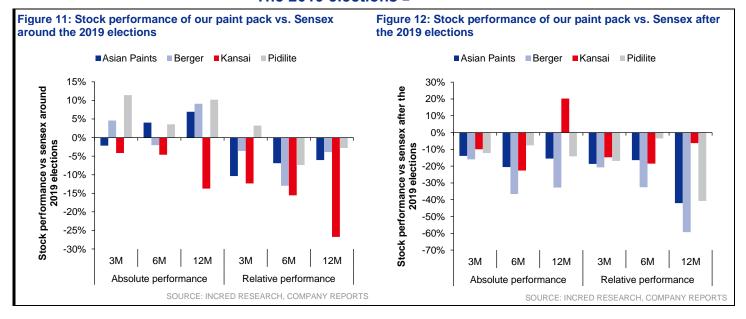
Figure 10: Capacity breakup at Kharagpur facility								
MLPA		Kharagpur						
Paints		360						
Resin & emu	Ilsions/water-based polymers	160						
Total		520						
	SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, ENVIRONMENT CL	EARANCE REPORTS						



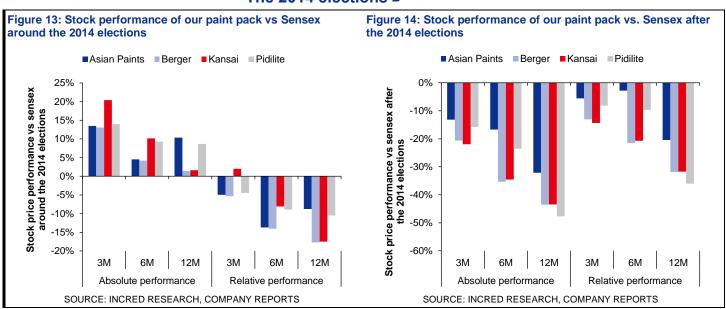
# Share price movement around and after the last three general elections

#### **Paints**

# The 2019 elections ➤

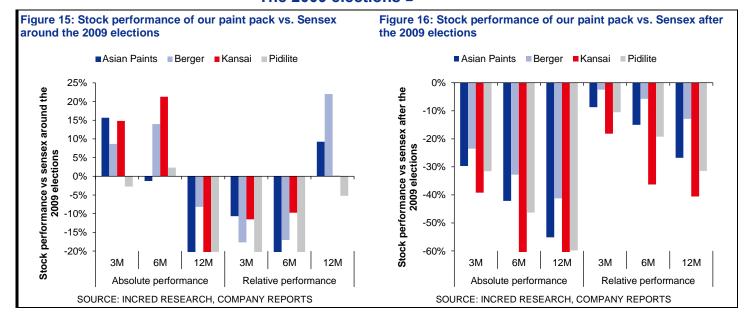


# The 2014 elections



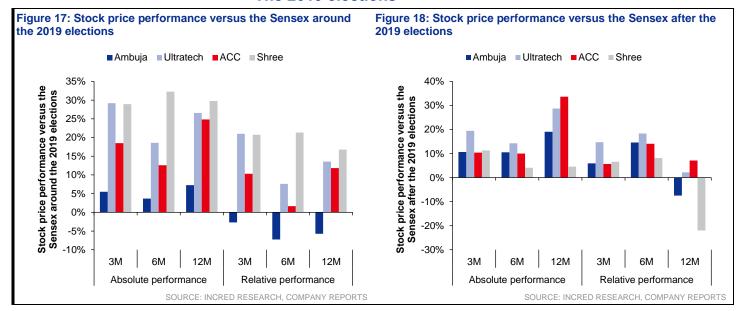


## The 2009 elections



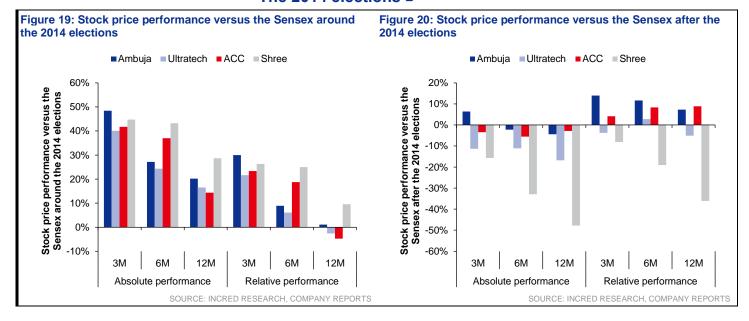
# **Cement stocks**

## The 2019 elections >

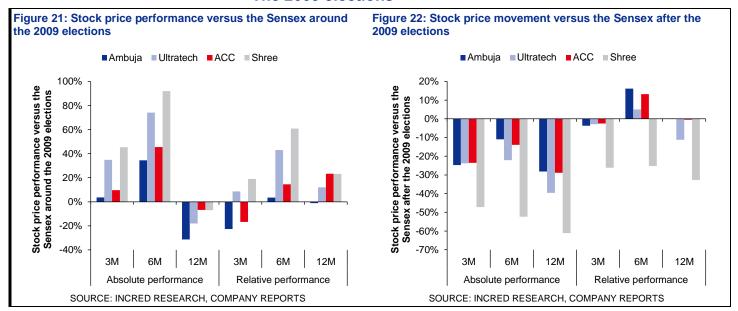




## The 2014 elections >

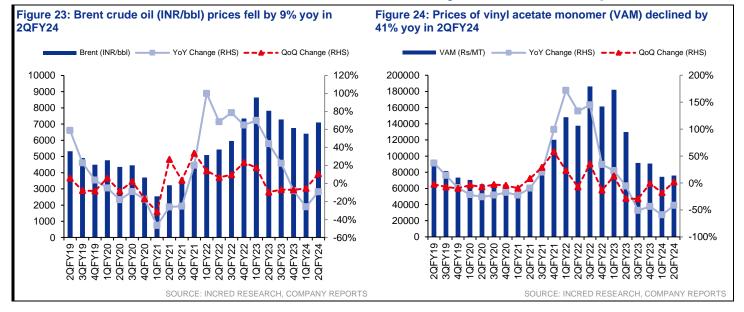


#### The 2009 elections





# Price movement of key raw materials - paints







Near-term constructive outlook on cement sector factors in strong demand, lower costs likely in the system and a steady exit for all-India average price in 3Q ▶

# Takeaways from interaction on cement demand and supply

- Demand outlook: As per our interaction with a cement expert, dealers, C&F agents and sales executives, the volume growth was strong in Oct 2023, but it slowed in Nov 2023 due to festival holidays and assembly elections in five states. However, our recent channel check indicates that demand would pick up from Dec 2023F-end and remain strong in Jan/Feb 2024F. Industry demand prospects continue to remain positive (barring the near-term festive season impact), considering the strong traction in government projects, primarily led by general elections in 2024. Many producers expect double-digit demand growth for the industry in FY24F and strong growth for themselves. Accordingly, we continue to believe that FY24F will likely be the third consecutive year of strong demand, with double-digit volume growth.
- Supply (capacity addition): The expert feels Ultratech, Adani Group, Shree Cement, Dalmia Bharat and JSW would account for the highest share of capacity addition (70-75%) in the industry over the next three-to-four years, having already announced their aggressive capacity addition plans. However, the expert expects mid-low tier players to decline further and believes the best course of action for them is to merge with top-tier players and realize value just like Sanghi Industries and Kesoram did recently. He expects companies to chase inorganic opportunities more aggressively than in the past. Any more M&A to result in lower supply pain for the industry.
- As regards organic expansions, most capacity expansion projects are progressing as per schedule. During 2QFY24, new capacity addition announcements were made by UTCEM (phase-3 of 22mtpa to commence from FY26F), JKLC, BCORP, SRCM and JKCE. ACEM announced the details of its expansion plan for the medium term and its target of achieving 101mtpa capacity by FY26F, and also reiterated its 140mtpa target for FY28F.
- We believe consolidation will remain high in the medium- to long-term. We feel the top four-to-five players will grow faster than the market at the cost of small and regional players. We believe this trend will continue, given the ability of large players to service the market from multiple locations, and we expect smaller incompetent players to exit the space for some larger players. A few large players' recent commentaries highlighted that capital allocation and deal valuations will be key factors that will be considered while acquiring any assets.

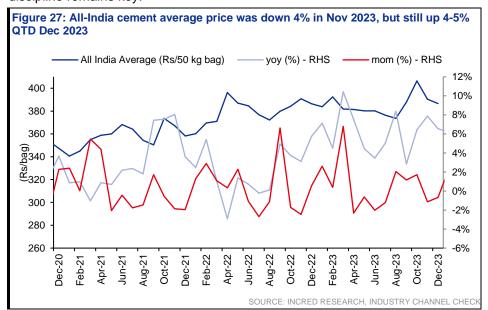


Our interactions with cement dealers and experts indicate that price hikes taken in Sep/Oct 2023 sustained fully till early Nov 2023, while partial rollbacks were seen in rest of the Nov 2023 on account of weak demand due to the festive season, assembly elections in some states, and rains in select parts of South India.

Pan-India cement prices were down ~4% mom in Nov 2023, but still up 4-5% qoq till date in 3QFY24.

# **Cement prices >**

As per our channel check and management commentaries, the industry saw a couple of price hikes (by ~Rs20/bag) in Sep and Oct 2023 across regions (highest in South India and East India followed by North India). However, Nov 2023 saw a price rollback of Rs10-15/bag due to weak demand because of the festive season, assembly elections in some states, pollution curbs in Delhi/NCR, and unseasonal rains in South India. However, in 3Q (till date) average prices are still 4-5% up qoq. There is a possibility that prices may increase in Jan 2024F, which generally do, and imported coal prices have seen some moderation in recent days, which is positive for cement players in the medium term. However, historical data raises concerns regarding the industry's ability to sustain sharp price hikes over an extended period. However, this time the expert feels that more price hike announcements are likely if there is any fuel cost inflation, although pricing discipline remains key.

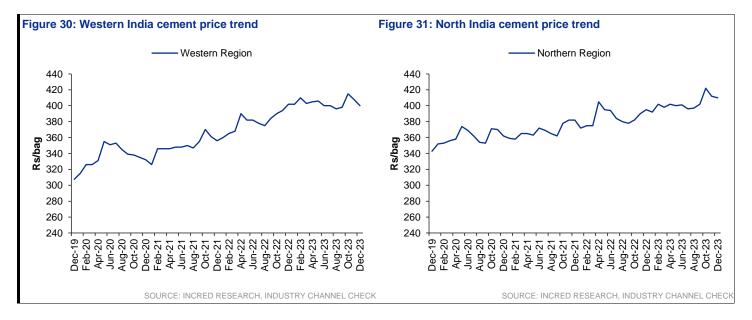


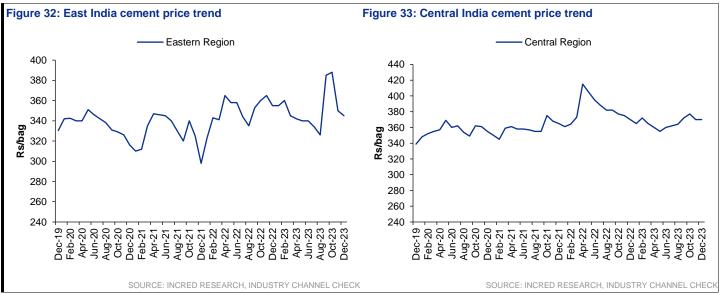
#### Region-wise pricing trend:

- North: The North India region, after facing a decline of Rs10/bag mom in Nov 2023 due to pan-India factors and pollution curbs, affected the demand negatively. We expect the prices to remain constant in Dec 2023F. They were up by ~4% gog so far in 3QFY24.
- South: South India witnessed a fall in prices in Nov 2023 by Rs15-20/bag. With the reversal of price hike announced in Oct 2023, it has led to an increase in price volatility. Also, the disruption caused by 'Cyclone Michaung' will affect the supply chain and add to price volatility. Still prices in the region were up by 8% qoq so far in 3QFY24.
- East: With a price hike of Rs55-60/bag announced in Sep/Oct 2023 in two phases in East India, only the first round was able to witness a pass-through due to lower demand because of the festive season and saw a rollback of Rs30/bag in Nov 2023. Based on our interaction with dealers, there is a less chance of a price hike in Dec 2023F as the companies who have lost market share will price aggressively to regain it. Prices were up by ~4% qoq so far in 3QFY24.
- West: There was a price decline of Rs10/bag in Nov 2023 in the eastern region. Dealers expect the demand to pick up from mid-Dec 2023F as the house construction activity resumes and also there is better availability of labourers. Cement prices were up by ~2% qoq so far in 3QFY24.
- Central: Average prices declined by Rs7-8/bag in Nov 2023 in the central region, with no price hike taken in Madhya Pradesh due to assembly elections.
   We expect the prices to remain flat in Dec 2023F. They were up by ~1.5% gog so far in 3QFY24.



Figure 29: South India cement price trend Figure 28: Region-wise, cement prices decline was seen in all regions in Nov 2023, with a sharp rollback seen in the eastern region followed by southern and northern regions Northern Region Eastern Region Southern Region Southern Region Western Region 440 440 Central Region 420 420 400 400 380 380 360 Rs/bag 360 340 340 320 320 300 300 280 280 260 260 240 240 Pec-19
Pec-19
Apr-20
Jun-20
Aug-20
Oct-20
Oct-20
Jun-21
Jun-21
Jun-22
Jun-22
Jun-22
Aug-22
Aug-22 SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, INDUSTRY CHANNEL CHECK SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, INDUSTRY CHANNEL CHECK





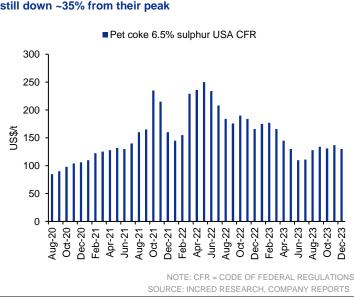


# Cement sector - major input cost trend ➤

Recent coal and crude oil price decline could lead to stable pet-coke prices in the medium term: In Nov 2023, international pet-coke prices were steady on mom basis at US\$130/t (stable in the last four-to-five months) while imported coal prices witnessed a decline of ~20% from their recent peak and remained flat vs. 2QFY24 average. The average fuel cost stood at Rs1.88 on Kcal basis in 2QFY24 vs. Rs2.16 on Kcal basis gog. In the upcoming quarters, there is a likelihood of benefits with stable input prices and advantages from operating leverage. Cement producers indicate that input costs for the industry are likely to be largely flat-tomarginally down qoq in 3QFY24F (as per the availability of inventory) while freight costs will increase qoq.

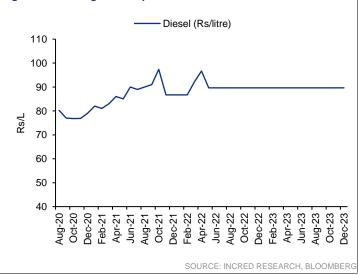
Figure 35: Domestic pet-coke price trend

Figure 34: International pet-coke prices started their uptrend in Aug 2023 and increased by >25% from the bottom, but they are still down ~35% from their peak

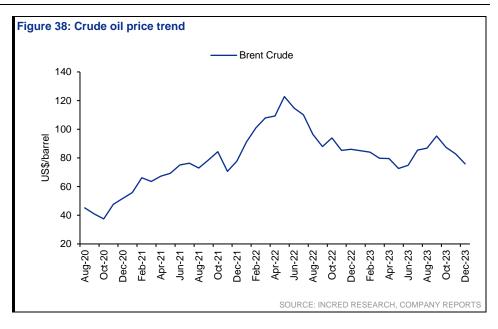


■ Domestic pet-coke (Rs/t) 25,000 20.000 15,000 ₹s/t 10,000 5,000 Jan-23 Feb-23 Apr-23 May-23 Dec-22 Mar-23 Oct-22 SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, BLOOMBERG

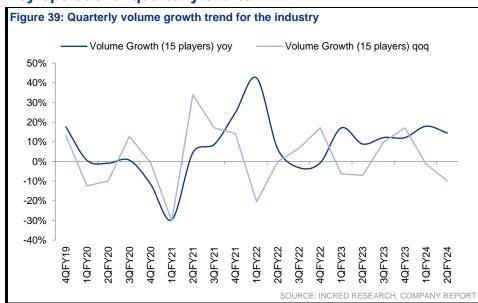
Figure 36: Imported coal prices (South African 6K/Kcal) trend Figure 37: Average diesel price trend Richard Bay coal -6K Kcal/kg (Imported South African Coa) 400 350 300 250 200 150 100 50 Apr-22 Jun-22 Aug-22 Oct-22 Dec-22 Feb-23 Apr-23 Jun-23 Feb-22 Dec-21 SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, BLOOMBERG

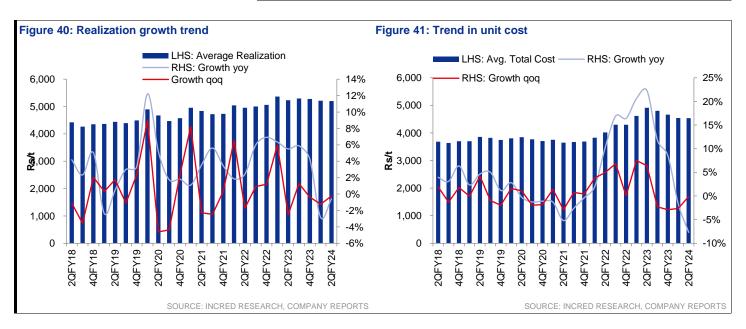




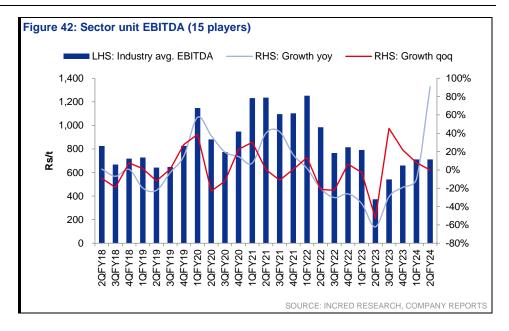


# Key operational quarterly charts ➤









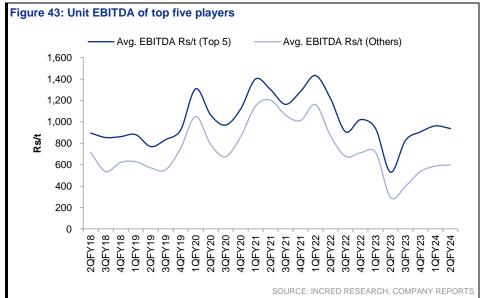


Figure 44: Average co													
Rs/t	2QFY21	3QFY21	4QFY21	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24	2QFY24
Raw Material Costs	731	728	783	656	800	752	874	809	870	908	991	937	910
P& F Costs	925	965	947	1,129	1,132	1,396	1,390	1,688	1,888	1,728	1,588	1,534	1,475
Freight Costs	1,051	1,073	1,116	1,118	1,104	1,127	1,141	1,192	1,165	1,173	1,161	1,157	1,115
Other Costs	676	686	654	685	749	767	690	731	783	746	701	695	765
Employee Costs	335	298	279	337	335	325	266	308	326	307	269	287	325
Total Costs	3,647	3,674	3,690	3,830	4,020	4,295	4,297	4,623	4,921	4,803	4,664	4,542	4,538
EBITDA/t	1,235	1,096	1,103	1,252	985	765	814	794	374	542	660	712	711
									SOURC	E: INCRED F	RESEARCH,	COMPANY	REPORTS



Rs Kcal	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24	2QFY24	3Q-4QFY24F	vs. spot prices
ACC	2.25	2.52	3.10	2.61	2.35	2.13	1.85		
Ambuja Cements	2.20	2.50	2.80	2.33	2.10	2.09	1.82		
Ultratech	1.95	2.20	2.50	2.60	2.50	2.34	2.12	Some moderation	
Shree Cement	2.13	2.61	2.83	2.53	2.53	2.37	2.05	1.90	
JK Cement	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.60	2.40	2.2	1.9	1.8-1.85	
Nuvoco		2.28	2.64	2.74	2.31	1.94	1.77		
The Ramco Cements	1.88	1.87		2.43	2.21	2.03	1.75		Pet-coke - US\$130 now
India Cements	2.23	2.69	3.26	2.95	2.70	2.25	2.04		
JK Lakshmi			2.30	2.57	2.42	2.23	2.04	1.94-1.95	
Dalmia Bharat	2.07	2.47	2.52	2.42	2.06	1.98	1.58	Marginal reduction	
Star Cement		2.09		2.09	2.10	2.35	1.9		
Birla Corporation						1.95	1.75	Same	
Orient Cement							1.8 & 2.14		
Average	2.15	2.45	2.71	2.53	2.33	2.16	1.88		

Capacity (mtpa)	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	Aspirations beyond FY25F
UTCEM	132	137	153	200mtpa before 2030F
SRCM	46.4	49.4	55.9	>80mtpa by 2030F
ACC-ACEM	67.9	73.3	78.3	140mtpa by 2028F
DALBHARA	39	47	47	75mtpa byFY27F and 120mtpa by FY32F
JKCE	20.7	22.2	24.2	40mtpa by 2030F
NUVOCO	23.8	25	25	30mtpa by 2030F
TRCL	22	23	23	To grow ahead of the industry
JKLC	14	15.3	16.5	30mtpa by 2030F
BCORP	19.8	19.8	19.8	30mtpa by 2030F
ORCMNT	8.5	8.5	8.5	15mtpa by 2030F
				SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



# Key assumptions for our cement coverage universe

Volume (mt)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
UTCEM*	86	81	86	94	106	119	128	141	10.7%	10.0%
ACC*#	28	29	26	29	31	36	38	40	2.9%	9.3%
ACEM#	24	24	23	27	30	34	37	41	5.6%	10.7%
SRCM*	26	25	27	28	32	36	39	43	7.1%	10.6%
TRLC	11	11	10	11	15	18	20	21	9.7%	12.1%
JKCE*	9	8	10	12	14	17	18	20	11.5%	12.4%
BCORP*	14	14	13	14	16	18	19	21	4.9%	9.3%
HEIM	5	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	-1.1%	6.0%
DALBHARA*	19	19	21	22	26	28	33	38	8.7%	14.2%
JKLC*	11	10	10	11	12	13	14	16	4.2%	10.5%
ORCMNT	6	6	5	5	6	6	7	9	0.0%	15.6%

Construction and Materials | India

Total

239

232

236

259

\*CONSOLIDATED, # FOR ACC-ACEM, FY23 COMPRISES 15 MONTHS, SO ADJUSTED FOR 12M; YEAR-END CHANGES FROM DEC-MAR SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS

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Realization (Rs/t)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
UTCEM*	4,775	5,127	5,122	5,501	5,900	5,883	5,956	6,037	3.9%	0.8%
ACC#	4,643	4,801	4,909	5,044	5,276	5,149	5,221	5,294	3.5%	0.1%
ACEM#	4,540	4,719	4,929	5,105	5,287	5,298	5,372	5,426	3.5%	0.9%
SRCM*	4,545	5,163	5,052	5,411	5,611	5,779	5,803	5,872	6.1%	1.5%
TRLC	4,549	4,792	5,281	5,413	5,488	5,230	5,303	5,377	3.4%	-0.7%
JKCE	3,991	4,527	4,494	4,774	4,971	5,061	5,117	5,188	4.1%	1.4%
BCORP	4,358	4,826	4,853	4,961	5,242	5,242	5,315	5,389	3.7%	0.9%
HEIM	4,298	4,575	4,652	4,681	5,096	5,014	5,090	5,140	5.0%	0.3%
DALBHARA	4,749	4,691	4,874	5,073	5,141	5,110	5,161	5,235	0.9%	0.6%
JKLC	3,875	4,342	4,523	4,840	5,460	5,444	5,498	5,573	6.9%	0.7%
ORCMNT	3,933	4,178	4,604	4,975	5,100	5,171	5,244	5,317	5.7%	1.4%
Average	4,387	4,704	4,845	5,071	5,325	5,307	5,371	5,441	4.2%	0.7%

Cost (Rs/t)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
UTCEM*	3,999	4,072	3,839	4,371	4,981	4,806	4,803	4,834	4.6%	-1.0%
ACC	4,496	4,585	4,477	4,553	5,257	4,774	4,761	4,798	4.1%	-3.0%
ACEM	3,915	3,956	3,849	3,981	4,435	4,192	4,143	4,153	3.6%	-2.2%
SRCM*	3,774	3,655	3,532	4,075	4,681	4,621	4,589	4,636	7.5%	-0.3%
TRLC	3,704	3,777	3,729	4,251	4,690	4,311	4,337	4,370	5.7%	-2.3%
JKCE*	4,481	4,694	4,353	4,780	5,194	4,993	4,972	4,980	4.5%	-1.4%
BCORP	4,047	4,091	4,069	4,466	5,029	4,743	4,728	4,723	4.8%	-2.1%
HEIM	3,369	3,489	3,589	3,899	4,529	4,208	4,158	4,178	6.7%	-2.7%
DALBHARA	4,037	3,923	3,550	3,991	4,367	4,189	4,218	4,236	2.5%	-1.0%
JKLC	3,468	3,548	3,625	3,991	4,751	4,667	4,672	4,699	6.6%	-0.4%
ORCMNT	3,446	3,517	3,513	3,896	4,467	4,355	4,361	4,408	6.0%	-0.4%
Average	3,885	3,937	3,830	4,205	4,762	4,533	4,522	4,547	5.1%	-1.5%
							<b></b>	SOURCE: INCRI	ED RESEARCH ESTIMATE	*BLENDED ES, COMPANY REPORTS

EBITDA (Rs/t)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
UTCEM*	775	1,055	1,339	1,225	1,005	1,153	1,231	1,282	2.2%	8.4%
ACC#	675	782	899	1,038	499	802	889	937	-5.9%	23.4%
ACEM#	782	893	1,167	1,187	852	1,106	1,229	1,272	0.7%	14.3%
SRCM*	1,080	1,508	1,520	1,337	930	1,159	1,214	1,236	-0.8%	9.9%
TRLC	932	1,015	1,552	1,162	797	966	1,011	1,051	-7.6%	9.7%
JKCE*	845	1,241	1,322	1,089	812	1,028	1,055	1,064	0.0%	9.4%
BCORP	685	979	999	781	491	765	851	927	-5.5%	23.6%
HEIM	987	1,122	1,129	910	567	806	931	962	-6.2%	19.3%
DALBHARA	999	1,072	1,324	1,084	901	1,049	1,062	1,113	-5.7%	7.3%
JKLC	407	794	898	849	710	777	827	874	9.6%	7.2%
ORCMNT	487	660	1,091	1,079	633	817	883	909	3.6%	12.8%
Average	787	1,011	1,204	1,067	745	948	1,017	1,057	-1.8%	12.4%



Revenue (Rs bn)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
UTCEM*	416	424	447	526	632	708	775	861	15.0%	10.8%
ACC*#	148	157	138	162	222	199	216	230	10.8%	1.2%
ACEM#	114	117	114	140	200	180	199	223	13.8%	3.7%
SRCM*	126	129	136	150	179	206	226	253	13.4%	12.3%
TRLC	52	54	53	60	81	95	104	113	13.0%	11.7%
JKCE*	53	58	66	80	97	113	123	135	14.9%	11.6%
BCORP*	65	69	68	75	87	98	107	116	8.7%	10.1%
HEIM	21	22	21	23	22	24	25	27	3.4%	6.3%
DALBHARA*	95	97	101	113	135	148	177	205	9.6%	14.8%
JKLC*	43	44	47	54	65	72	80	89	11.5%	11.3%
ORCMNT	25	24	23	27	29	33	36	47	5.7%	17.2%
Total	1,157	1,193	1,214	1,409	1,750	1,876	2,067	2,299	12.7%	9.5%

\*CONSOLIDATED, # FOR ACC-ACEM, FY23 COMPRISES 15 MONTHS; YEAR-END CHANGES FROM DEC-MAR SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS

Figure 52: We expe	ect EBITDA o	of coverage	e compani	es to grov	v by over	~20% ove	r FY23-26I	=		
EBITDA (Rs bn)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
UTCEM*	73.5	92.5	115.7	115.1	106.2	137.0	158.0	180.4	11.6%	19.3%
ACC*#	20.5	24.1	23.6	30.0	19.2	28.6	34.0	37.6	0.5%	25.0%
ACEM#	18.9	21.5	26.5	32.1	32.2	37.5	45.5	52.3	11.2%	17.5%
SRCM*	27.9	37.6	40.8	37.1	29.6	41.2	47.2	53.2	6.3%	21.6%
TRLC	10.4	11.4	15.5	12.8	11.8	17.5	19.7	22.0	1.5%	23.0%
JKCE*	8.3	12.1	15.4	14.8	13.1	19.3	21.6	23.8	10.8%	21.9%
BCORP*	9.5	13.4	13.4	11.1	7.7	13.7	16.3	19.0	-0.9%	35.1%
HEIM	4.8	5.3	5.1	4.3	2.5	3.8	4.6	5.0	-7.3%	26.4%
DALBHARA*	19.4	21.1	27.6	24.3	23.2	29.7	35.5	42.6	2.6%	22.5%
JKLC*	4.5	8.0	9.4	9.5	8.4	10.2	12.0	13.9	14.2%	18.4%
ORCMNT	3.1	3.8	5.5	5.9	3.6	5.2	6.0	8.1	3.6%	30.4%
Total	201	251	298	297	258	344	400	458	7.5%	21.1%

\*CONSOLIDATED, # FOR ACC-ACEM, FY23 COMPRISES 15 MONTHS; YEAR-END CHANGES FROM DEC-MAR SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS

PAT (Rs bn)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
UTCEM*	24.0	57.6	53.2	71.8	50.6	76.2	89.6	103.7	17.9%	27.0%
ACC*#	15.2	13.7	14.3	18.6	8.9	17.5	20.9	23.0	-0.9%	37.5%
ACEM#	14.9	15.3	17.9	20.8	25.5	25.6	31.1	35.3	14.9%	11.4%
SRCM*	10.1	15.4	22.9	23.3	12.7	20.2	22.8	26.2	-1.7%	27.3%
TRLC	5.1	6.0	7.6	8.9	3.4	5.5	6.9	8.3	-9.2%	34.5%
JKCE*	2.7	4.9	7.1	6.9	4.3	7.2	8.7	10.2	8.3%	33.6%
BCORP*	2.6	5.1	6.3	4.0	0.4	3.9	5.6	7.6	-23.4%	165.5%
HEIM	2.2	2.7	3.1	2.5	1.0	2.0	2.7	3.0	-5.7%	44.4%
DALBHARA*	3.1	2.2	11.7	8.2	10.4	9.0	10.7	14.8	28.8%	12.6%
JKLC*	0.5	2.5	4.1	4.6	3.6	4.9	5.9	7.2	45.3%	25.9%
ORCMNT	0.5	0.9	2.1	2.6	1.2	2.2	2.5	3.5	22.7%	41.6%
Total	81	126	150	172	122	174	207	243	10.7%	25.8%

\*CONSOLIDATED, # FOR ACC-ACEM, FY23 COMPRISES 15 MONTHS; YEAR-END CHANGES FROM DEC-MAR SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS



# Key assumptions for our paint coverage universe

Revenue (Rs bn)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	<b>CAGR FY18-23</b>	CAGR FY23-26F
Asian Paints	193	202	217	291	345	372	404	442	15%	9%
Berger Paints	61	64	68	88	106	117	127	138	15%	9%
Kansai Nerolac Paints	54	53	51	64	75	80	85	92	10%	7%
Pidilite Industries	71	73	73	99	118	130	143	158	14%	10%

Figure 2: We expect EBI	I DA OI COVCI	age comp	arries to i	iici ease k	y 10-21/	OVELLIZ	.3-201			
EBITDA (Rs bn)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
Asian Paints	38	42	49	48	63 <mark>.</mark>	77	80	83	14%	10%
Berger Paints	9	11	12	13	15	20	21	23	13%	15%
Kansai Nerolac Paints	8	8	9	6	8	11	11	12	1%	13%
Pidilite Industries	14	16	17	18	20	28	31	35	8%	21%

PAT (Rs bn)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	CAGR FY18-23	CAGR FY23-26F
Asian Paints	22	27	31	31	42	53	56	58	15%	12%
Berger Paints	5	7	7	8	9	13	13	14	13%	18%
Kansai Nerolac Paints	4	5	5	4	5	7	8	8	-2%	19%
Pidilite Industries	10	12	11	12	13	19	21	24	7%	24%



Figure 4: Cement sector peer comparison Closing Target Market cap EV/EBITDA (x) P/BV (x) RoE (%) P/E (x) EV/t (US\$) Rating Company Price (LC) Price (LC) FY25F FY23 FY24F FY25F FY23 FY24F FY25F FY23 FY24F FY23 FY24F FY25F FY23 FY24F FY25F Upside (US\$ m) UltraTech Cement ADD 9,671 9,500 -2% 33,484 26.4 4.1 14.0 245.9 217.4 20.5 17.5 5.1 4.6 9.7 13.3 54.8 36.4 31.0 258.3 ACC ADD 2,179 2,200 4,908 21.1 10.7 7.1 46.3 110.3 1% 12.7 2.9 2.6 2.4 11.8 12.6 23.4 19.6 134.2 110.8 ADD Ambuja Cements 504 490 -3% 12,003 30.3 21.1 20.2 3.5 2.2 2.6 10.6 6.9 6.7 39.2 39.1 36.0 166.3 152.9 137.6 Shree Cement REDUCE 28,303 24.200 -14% 12.248 34.2 247 21.6 5.5 5.1 4.7 7.0 10.4 10.9 80.4 50.5 44.9 265.8 229.6 179.6 The Ramco Cements HOLD 1,031 1,060 3% 2.923 24.3 16.6 14.5 3.6 3.4 3.1 5.2 7.8 9.2 70.9 44.7 35.1 164.2 159.5 156.7 JK Cement HOLD 3,841 3,500 -9% 3,559 25.7 17.5 15.3 6.3 5.6 5.0 9.5 14.5 15.6 69.6 41.0 34.0 177.6 163.5 148.3 Birla Corp. ADD 1,434 1,500 5% 1,324 19.1 9.2 1.8 1.6 6.3 8.6 NA 28.5 19.8 89.6 91.8 91.0 11.0 1.8 0.6 Heidelberg HOLD 214 181 -16% 583 18.1 9.2 3.3 3.0 13.6 17.3 48.7 23.9 18.0 89.1 88.4 83.8 11.8 3.2 6.6 2,346 ADD 2,570 19.2 13.6 2.8 2.7 5.6 41.1 140.3 104.5 Dalmia Bharat 10% 5,277 16.2 2.5 7.6 6.3 33.1 48.9 126.3 JK Lakshmi ADD 885 797 -10% 1,249 13.6 11.9 9.7 3.7 13.5 16.3 29.0 21.1 17.6 98.8 95.4 78.4 3.2 2.8 16.9 Orient Cement ADD 242 226 -7% 594 14.5 10.9 10.8 3.1 2.8 2.5 7.8 12.8 13.2 40.4 22.9 20.0 75.7 81.6 93.6 Mean 22.4 15.9 13.8 3.8 3.4 3.1 7.7 10.8 11.9 51.2 34.6 28.8 150.9 140.5 127.4 Median 21.1 16.2 13.6 3.5 3.2 2.8 7.6 11.8 12.6 47.5 36.4 31.0 140.3 126.3 110.8 Minimum 13.6 10.9 9.2 1.8 1.8 0.6 5.6 6.3 29.0 21.1 17.6 75.7 81.6 78.4 1.6 Maximum 34.2 24.7 21.6 5.6 13.5 16.3 17.3 80.4 50.5 44.9 265.8 245.9 217.4 6.3 5.0 SOURCE: INCRED RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS, BLOOMBERG, PRICED AS ON 11 DEC 2023

Company	Bloomberg Ticker	Rating	Market Price	Target Price	Revenue	EPS	P/E	E (x)
			Rs/share	Rs/share	CAGR FY23-25F	CAGR FY23-25F	FY24F	FY25F
Asian Paints	APNT IN	REDUCE	3,232	3,000	8.2%	15.8%	58.3	55.8
Berger Paints India	BRGR IN	HOLD	579	600	9.6%	13.3%	48.9	51.0
Kansai Nerolac Paints	KNPL IN	REDUCE	330	305	6.4%	27.3%	39.9	23.5
Pidilite Industries	PIDI IN	HOLD	2,562	2,545	10.3%	29.8%	66.9	60.7



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