

BSE SENSEX  
49,744

S&P CNX  
14,676


Bloomberg	HNDL IN
Equity Shares (m)	2,229
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USD\$)	709.6 / 9.6
52-Week Range (INR)	328 / 85
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	30/32/46
12M Avg Val (INR M)	3124

## Financials & Valuations (INR b)

Y/E MARCH	2021E	2022E	2023E
Sales	1,281	1,480	1,537
EBITDA	165.5	195.5	204.4
Adj. PAT	51.3	73.1	82.1
EBITDA Margin (%)	12.9	13.2	13.3
Cons. Adj. EPS (INR)	23.1	32.9	36.9
EPS Gr. (%)	31.9	42.6	12.2
BV/Sh. (INR)	181	211	245

## Ratios

Net D:E	1.3	1.0	0.7
RoE (%)	13.1	16.8	16.2
RoCE (%)	8.4	9.8	10.1
Payout (%)	8.6	9.6	8.6

## Valuations

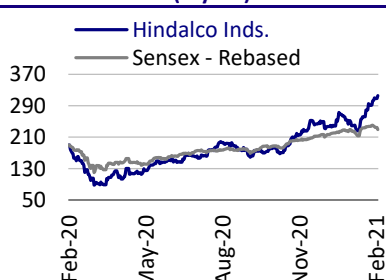
P/E (x)	13.7	8.7	7.7
P/BV (x)	1.7	1.3	1.2
EV/EBITDA(x)	7.4	5.6	4.9
Div. Yield (%)	0.5	0.9	0.9
FCF Yield (%)	10.7	14.5	17.1

## Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Sep-20	Jun-20	Sep-19
Promoter	34.7	34.7	34.7
DII	25.1	27.3	25.4
FII	19.9	18.8	21.4
Others	20.4	19.3	18.5

FII Includes depository receipts

## Stock Performance (1-year)


**CMP: INR316**
**TP: INR390 (+23%)**
**Buy**

## On a firm footing

### Strong cash flows to support growth and deleveraging

- In its virtual analyst meet on Feb 22, Hindalco (HNDL) laid out its strategy and capital allocation roadmap for the next five years. While no new capex plans were announced, the focus remains on growing the downstream business in India and deleveraging the balance sheet, supported by strong cash flows in both India and Novelis. Net debt/EBITDA is targeted to fall to 2.5x by Mar'22 (from the peak of 3.8x in Jun'20).
- We reiterate HNDL as our top non-ferrous pick on the back of a 26% EPS CAGR over FY21–23E, driven by strong volumes, margins, and deleveraging. We roll forward our TP to Mar'22 and raise it to INR390.

### Focus on organic growth and deleveraging

- The management expects to generate USD1–1.2b annual cash flow post its normal working capital and maintenance capex. It plans to broadly allocate this as follows: a) growth capex – 50%, b) deleveraging – 30%, c) returns to shareholders – 8–10%, and d) balance to be retained in treasury.
- Allocation toward organic growth capex over the next five years is accordingly guided at ~USD2.5–3.0b – ~USD1.5b in Novelis to grow its capacity to >4.5mtpa (from 4mtpa currently) and the balance USD1–1.5b in India to grow its Downstream business. At the same time, it does not plan to entertain any inorganic growth opportunity.
- Out of the post-Aleris acquisition (gross of debt of USD11.1b), HNDL also plans to repay USD2.9b by Dec'22 – USD2.6b in Novelis and USD0.3b in India. Net debt/EBITDA is targeted to fall to 2.5x by Mar'22 (from the peak of 3.8x in Jun'20) – below the pre-Aleris acquisition level of 2.6x in Mar'20.
- HNDL has also revised its dividend distribution policy to now pay out 8–10% of the consolidated FCF (pre-growth capex). We estimate this to increase the dividend to INR2.5–3/sh from INR1.2/sh in FY20.

### Robust business trading at reasonable valuations; Buy

- HNDL is our preferred non-ferrous pick owing to a) its strong profitability in the India Aluminum business from its low-cost integrated operations (top quartile globally), b) a positive outlook for Novelis, driven by recovery in auto demand and cost synergies from Aleris, c) solid FCF generation, which should reduce leverage sharply, and d) reasonable valuations.
- Moreover, with ~75% EBITDA now coming from the non-LME business (Novelis), we see relatively higher stability in HNDL's earnings.
- Even on our conservative LME aluminum assumption of USD1,850/t, the valuation is attractive at 4.9x FY23 EV/EBITDA. A USD100/t change in aluminum price impacts HNDL's FY22E EPS by 11% and our TP by 9%.
- We value it at INR390/sh on FY23 EV/EBITDA – 5x for India and 6x for Novelis. Reiterate **Buy**.

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Investors are advised to refer through important disclosures made at the last page of the Research Report.

Motilal Oswal research is available on [www.motilaloswal.com/Institutional-Equities](http://www.motilaloswal.com/Institutional-Equities), Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, Factset and S&P Capital.

## Key highlights from virtual analyst meet

### Capital allocation framework

- It is expected to generate cash flow of over USD1–1.2b p.a. cash post its normal working capital and maintenance capex. The focus will be on a) growth capex, b) deleveraging, and c) returns to shareholders.
- Allocation towards growth capex would be ~USD2.5–3.0b over the next five years; it has no plans for large inorganic growth.
- Broad allocation of cash flow post normal working capital and maintenance capex is targeted as follows: 1) growth capex: ~50%, 2) debt reduction: ~30%, 3) shareholder returns: 8–10%, 4) balance to be retained in treasury.

### Capex plan for Novelis

- Auto finishing lines at Kentucky (200kt) and Changzhou (100kt) are expected to be commissioned in 1H FY22. The combined capex stands at USD480m.
- Rolling and casting capacity additions at Pinda (100kt) are expected to be commissioned in 2H FY22. This entails capex of USD175m.
- Recycling capacity additions at Greensboro (40kt) involving capex of USD35m would be commissioned in 2H FY22.
- The cold mill expansion at Zhenjiang (200kt) would involve capex of USD300m and would be commissioned by 2H FY24.

### Capex plan for Hindalco

- Aluminum upstream – A 500kt capacity addition at Utkal would be commissioned by 1H FY22. This would entail capex of USD200m.
- Specialty alumina – A 70kt expansion with capex of USD40m is expected to be commissioned in 2H FY24.
- Aluminum – USD650m has been earmarked for capacity additions for finishing assets (50kt; to be commissioned in 1H FY22) and extrusion (34kt; to be commissioned in 2H FY23). On the other hand, capacities for FRP (to be commissioned in 2H FY24) and recycling (to be commissioned in 2H FY25) are yet to be decided.
- Copper – USD200m has been earmarked for a 25kt/100kt/210kt capacity addition for Inner Grove Tubes & Alloy Rod/recycling/Copper CCR, to be commissioned in FY24.

### USD2.6b deleveraging plans at Novelis

- USD1.1b of the bridge loan would be repaid by end-FY21, of which USD500m was already repaid in 3Q FY21 and the balance would be paid in 4Q FY21.
- Short Term of USD900m was repaid in 2Q and 3Q FY21.
- Of a USD1.7b term loan due in 2022, USD1.1b would be refinanced and the balance of USD600m would be repaid from the cash flows.

### USD0.3b deleveraging plans at Hindalco

- Of INR bonds of USD810m due in 2022, USD540m would be refinanced and the balance of USD270m would be repaid in 2022.

**Dividend policy**

- It would distribute a dividend in the range of 8–10% of Free Cash Flow at the consolidated level (defined as Cash Flow after meeting interest, tax, other statutory dues, maintenance capital expenditure, and working capital requirements at the Consolidated Level, but before considering strategic capital expenditure and debt repayments/pre-payments) of the relevant year.

**Beverage Cans business outlook**

- 1) Sustainable packaging preferences, 2) the shift from other substrates (such as glass and steel) to aluminum cans, and 3) increasing demand for new beverage types (such as sparkling water, spiked seltzer, canned cocktails, and energy drinks) would drive long-term aluminum can sheet demand at a 3–5% CAGR over the medium term.
- In North America, Cans accounted for 67% of beverage packaging in CY19 v/s 30% in CY14. In Brazil, Cans accounted for 57% of beer packaging v/s 52% in CY19.

**Automotive business outlook**

- Aluminum automotive sheet global demand is expected to grow at a CAGR of 10% p.a over CY20–25.
- Trucks & SUVs, with a growing share of the vehicle production mix in North America (~75%), have rapidly recovered.
- It currently represents 23% of the total aluminum pounds per vehicle; this is expected to increase to 30% by 2030, driven by the continued replacement of steel with aluminum on hang-on parts and BiW.

**Specialties business outlook**

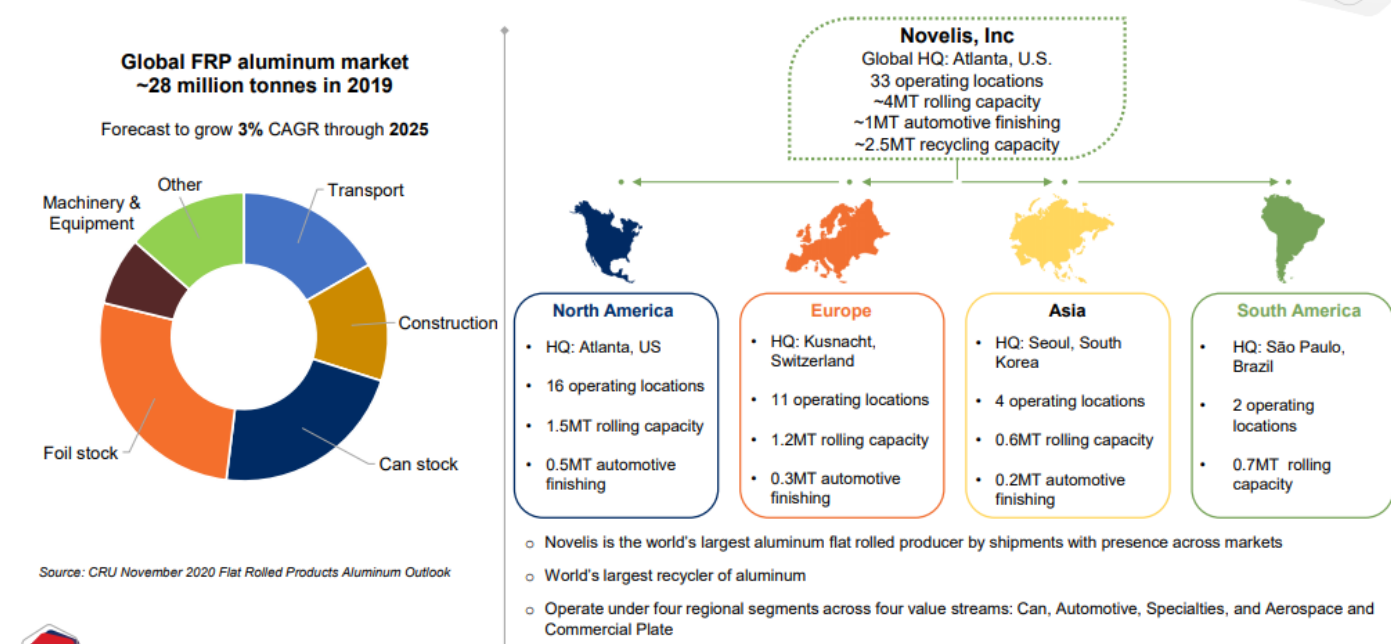
- Increased demand for sustainable products is driving shipments and innovation in high recycled alloys.
- With acquired assets, North America represents more than 50% of the global Specialties portfolio, while demand is being driven by a strong Housing market in the US.

**Aerospace business outlook**

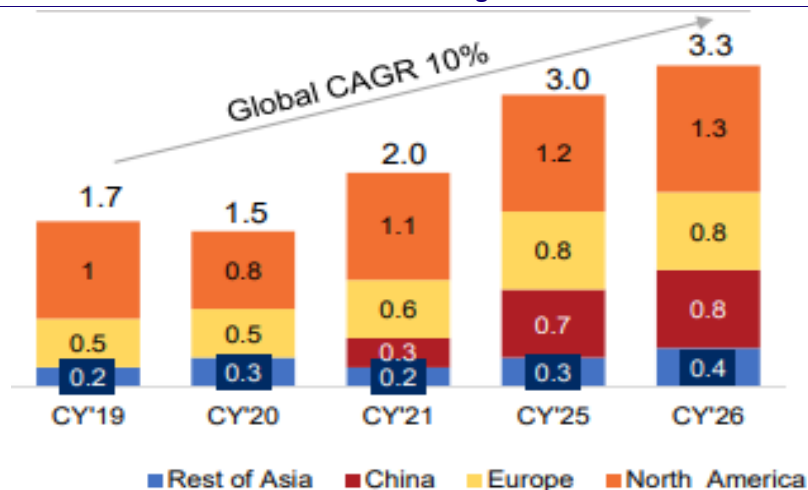
- It is seeing moderate recovery as demand has started picking up, led by multi-year OEM order backlogs.
- Novelis is well-positioned to capture long-term aircraft demand, predominantly in the Asia-Pacific, which accounts for 41% of the global order book for aircraft.

**Domestic business outlook**

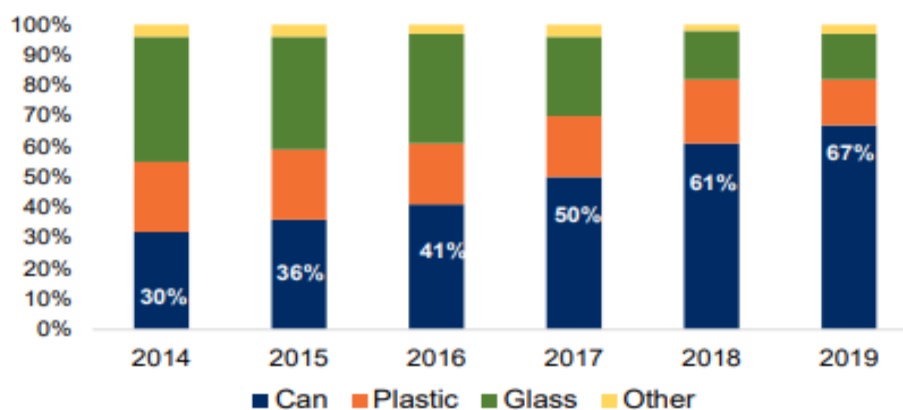
- Domestic aluminum consumption is expected to double to 7.2mt by 2030, driven by urban housing demand, a focus on electric vehicles, growth in packaging demand, and demand from white goods.
- Refined copper demand is expected to grow at 7–8% to 785kt over the next 8–10 years from FY22E.

**Exhibit 1: Snapshot of Novelis' global operations**

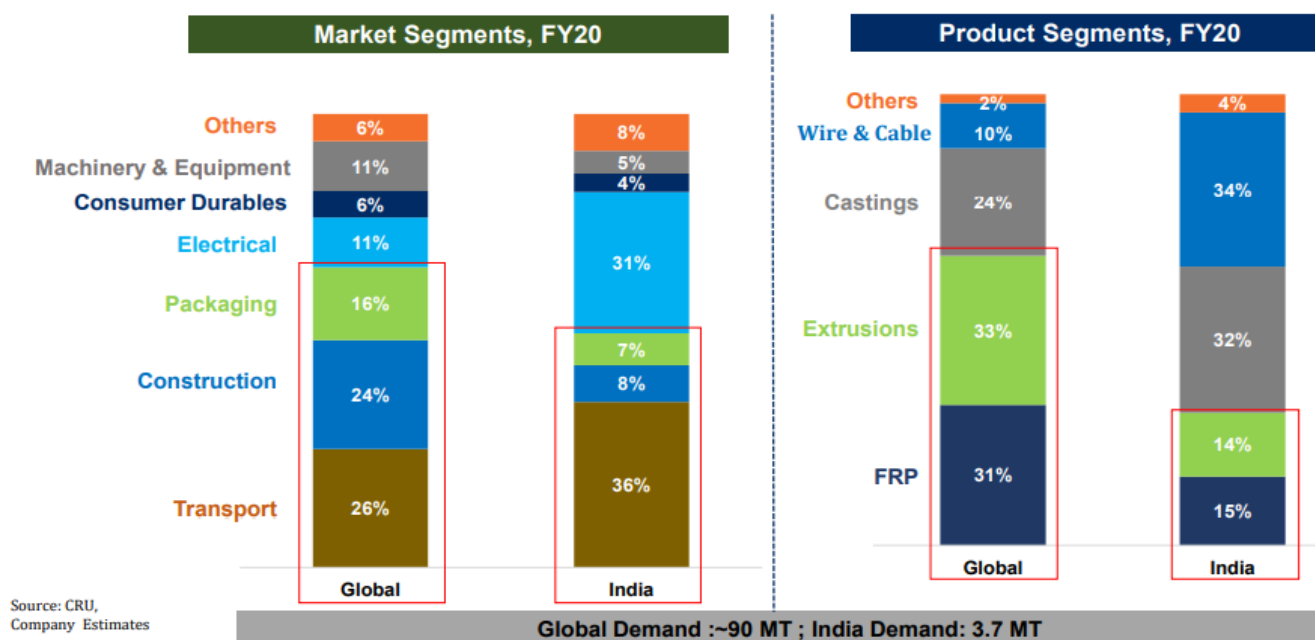
Source: Company

**Exhibit 2: Aluminum automotive sheet demand to grow at 10% CAGR over CY19–26**

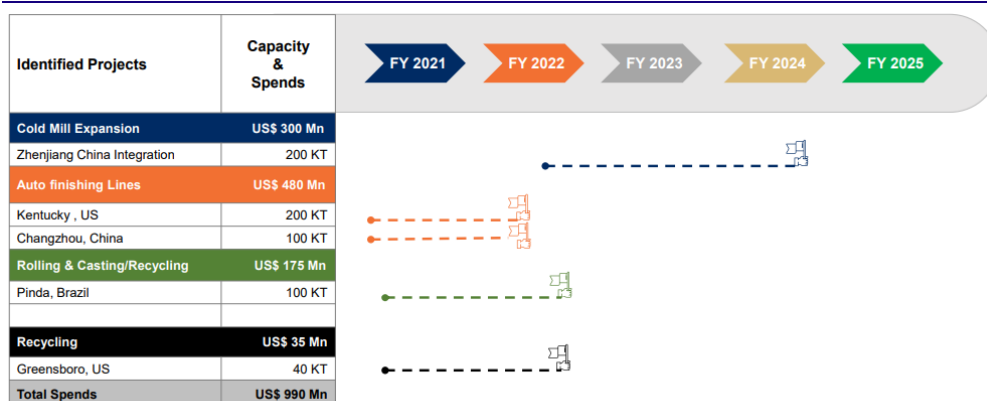
Source: Company

**Exhibit 3: Packaging trend for new beverages has shifted to cans in North America**

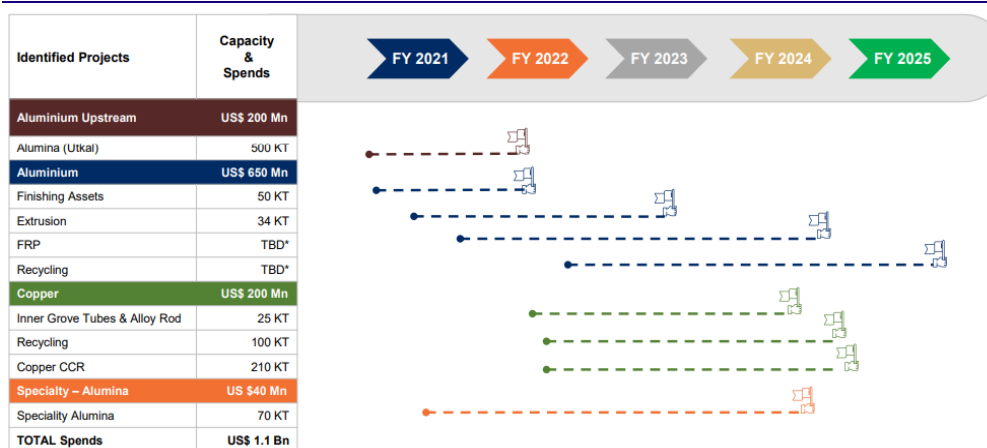
Source: Company

**Exhibit 4: Under-penetration in India's aluminum demand from FRP and Extrusions provides opportunity for growth**

Source: Company

**Exhibit 5: Novelis' capacity expansion timelines and capex outlay**

Source: Company

**Exhibit 6: Hindalco India's capacity expansion timelines and capex outlay**

Source: Company

## Valuation and view

- HNDL is our preferred non-ferrous pick owing to: a) its strong profitability in the India Aluminum business from low-cost integrated operations (top quartile globally), b) a positive outlook for Novelis, driven by recovery in auto demand and cost synergies from Aleris, c) solid FCF generation, which should reduce leverage sharply, and d) reasonable valuations.
- Moreover, with ~75% EBITDA now coming from the non-LME business (Novelis), we see relatively higher stability in HNDL's earnings. We expect margins for the Novelis business to remain strong over USD480/t.
- While we expect aluminum prices to sustain on the back of demand recovery, higher inventory could limit a further upside. We conservatively factor in average LME of USD1,850/t in FY22 and FY23 – around 10% lower than spot. A USD100/t change in aluminum prices impacts HNDL's FY22E EPS by 11% and our TP by 9%.
- Even on our conservative LME aluminum assumption of USD1,850/t, the valuation is attractive at 4.9x FY23 EV/EBITDA.
- We value it at INR390/sh on FY23 EV/EBITDA (5x for India and 6x for Novelis) and add the value of investments in the group companies at a 10% discount to market price. Reiterate **Buy**.

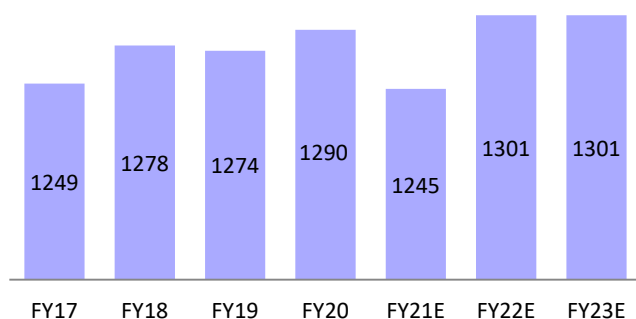
### Exhibit 7: Target price derivation

INR m	Multiple (x)	FY23E EBITDA	EV	INR per share
India operations	5.0	55,657	278,286	125
Novelis	6.0	148,774	892,643	401
Enterprise value			1,170,930	526
Net debt			362,205	163
<b>Equity value (a)</b>			<b>808,725</b>	<b>364</b>
<b>Investment in listed securities at 10% discount (b)</b>			<b>57,810</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Target price (INR/share) (a+b)</b>				<b>390</b>

Source: MOSL

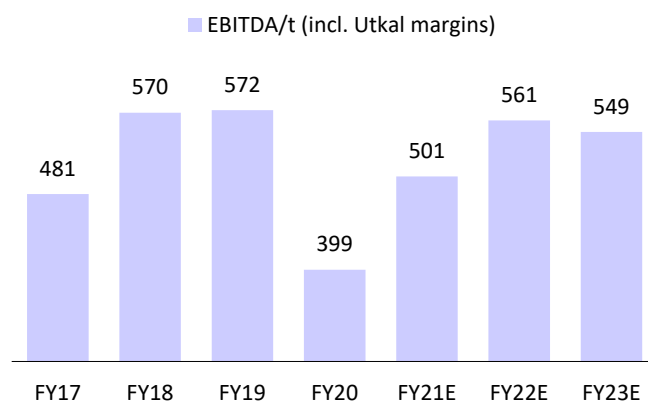
## Story in charts

**Exhibit 8: India Aluminum volume trend - In '000t**



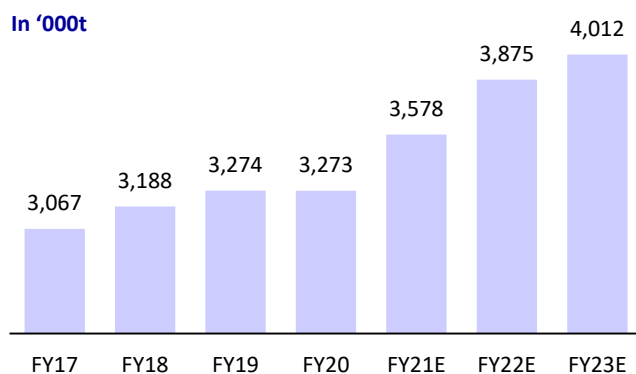
Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 9: Aluminum EBITDA/t to remain strong**

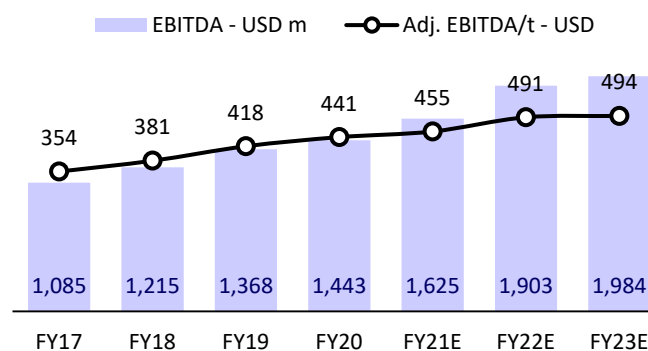


Source: Company, MOFSL

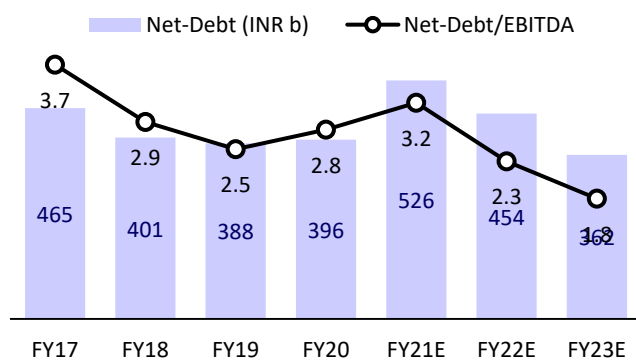
**Exhibit 10: Novelis' volumes rising with Aleris acquisition...**



**Exhibit 11: ...with an improving margin profile**

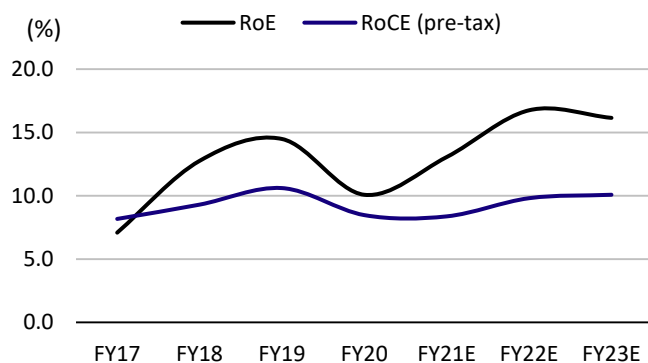


**Exhibit 12: Net debt-to-EBITDA to decline to 2.3x in FY22E**



Source: MOFSL

**Exhibit 13: Return ratios to improve in FY22E**



Source: MOFSL



## Financials and valuations

### Consolidated Income Statement

(INR m)

Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
<b>Net sales</b>	<b>10,01,838</b>	<b>11,51,717</b>	<b>13,05,423</b>	<b>11,81,440</b>	<b>12,81,262</b>	<b>14,80,152</b>	<b>15,36,529</b>
Change (%)	1.4	15.0	13.3	-9.5	8.4	15.5	3.8
Total Expenses	8,77,479	10,13,513	11,50,317	10,39,380	11,15,771	12,84,689	13,32,098
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>1,24,359</b>	<b>1,38,204</b>	<b>1,55,105</b>	<b>1,42,060</b>	<b>1,65,491</b>	<b>1,95,463</b>	<b>2,04,431</b>
% of Net Sales	12.4	12.0	11.9	12.0	12.9	13.2	13.3
Depn. and Amortization	44,572	45,062	47,770	50,910	65,708	66,447	67,612
<b>EBIT</b>	<b>79,786</b>	<b>93,141</b>	<b>1,07,335</b>	<b>91,150</b>	<b>99,783</b>	<b>1,29,016</b>	<b>1,36,820</b>
Net Interest	57,424	39,107	37,780	41,970	41,640	36,758	33,577
Other income	11,110	10,046	11,271	11,860	15,508	15,824	16,252
<b>PBT before EO</b>	<b>33,472</b>	<b>64,080</b>	<b>80,826</b>	<b>61,040</b>	<b>73,650</b>	<b>1,08,083</b>	<b>1,19,495</b>
EO income/(expense)	-76	17,742		-1,840	-1730		
<b>PBT after EO</b>	<b>33,395</b>	<b>81,821</b>	<b>80,826</b>	<b>59,200</b>	<b>71,920</b>	<b>1,08,083</b>	<b>1,19,495</b>
Tax	14,326	20,742	25,881	21,570	22,420	35,010	37,475
Rate (%)	42.9	25.4	32.0	36.4	31.2	32.4	31.4
<b>Reported PAT</b>	<b>19,069</b>	<b>61,080</b>	<b>54,945</b>	<b>37,630</b>	<b>49,501</b>	<b>73,072</b>	<b>82,020</b>
Minority interests	-174	-1	-7				
Share of asso.	-251	-1,251	5	40	40	40	40
<b>Adjusted PAT</b>	<b>19,069</b>	<b>42,088</b>	<b>54,957</b>	<b>38,884</b>	<b>51,271</b>	<b>73,112</b>	<b>82,060</b>
Change (%)	-22.9	120.7	30.6	-29.2	31.9	42.6	12.2

### Balance Sheet

(INR m)

Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Share Capital	2,227	2,229	2,224	2,224	2,224	2,224	2,224
Reserves	4,58,361	5,46,289	5,72,793	5,80,950	6,26,710	6,93,817	7,69,872
<b>Net Worth</b>	<b>4,60,588</b>	<b>5,48,518</b>	<b>5,75,017</b>	<b>5,83,174</b>	<b>6,28,934</b>	<b>6,96,041</b>	<b>7,72,096</b>
Minority Interest	62	86	95	100	100	100	100
Total Loans	6,37,515	5,20,155	5,24,150	6,74,190	7,86,781	7,49,401	7,13,173
Deferred Tax Liability	20,168	31,333	36,505	37,610	42,094	49,096	56,591
<b>Capital Employed</b>	<b>11,18,333</b>	<b>11,00,092</b>	<b>11,35,767</b>	<b>12,95,074</b>	<b>14,57,909</b>	<b>14,94,638</b>	<b>15,41,960</b>
Gross Block	10,40,510	10,82,644	11,30,670	11,99,704	14,44,968	14,97,279	15,50,742
Less: Accum. Deprn.	3,64,991	4,10,054	4,57,824	5,08,734	5,74,442	6,40,889	7,08,500
<b>Net Fixed Assets</b>	<b>6,75,518</b>	<b>6,72,590</b>	<b>6,72,846</b>	<b>6,90,970</b>	<b>8,70,526</b>	<b>8,56,390</b>	<b>8,42,242</b>
Goodwill	1,71,350	1,78,294	1,85,746	2,00,980	2,26,105	2,26,105	2,26,105
Capital WIP	18,139	20,629	40,971	77,210	33,453	28,894	24,335
Investments	62,057	68,778	51,567	31,320	31,360	31,400	31,440
<b>Working capital Assets</b>	<b>5,29,543</b>	<b>5,29,846</b>	<b>5,67,157</b>	<b>6,85,704</b>	<b>7,01,331</b>	<b>7,87,230</b>	<b>8,61,869</b>
Inventory	1,82,914	2,16,314	2,21,938	2,23,840	2,45,722	2,81,837	2,94,677
Account Receivables	82,748	99,598	1,14,598	93,450	1,05,309	1,19,629	1,26,290
Cash and Bank Balance	1,72,129	1,19,612	1,36,419	2,78,480	2,60,367	2,95,831	3,50,968
Others (incl. LT)	91,752	94,322	94,203	89,934	89,934	89,934	89,934
<b>Working capital liability</b>	<b>3,38,275</b>	<b>3,70,046</b>	<b>3,82,520</b>	<b>3,91,110</b>	<b>4,04,867</b>	<b>4,35,382</b>	<b>4,44,031</b>
Account Payables	1,78,581	2,04,392	2,07,244	1,82,820	1,96,577	2,27,092	2,35,741
Others (incl. LT)	1,59,694	1,65,655	1,75,276	2,08,290	2,08,290	2,08,290	2,08,290
<b>Net Working Capital</b>	<b>1,91,269</b>	<b>1,59,800</b>	<b>1,84,637</b>	<b>2,94,594</b>	<b>2,96,464</b>	<b>3,51,849</b>	<b>4,17,838</b>
<b>Appl. of Funds</b>	<b>11,18,333</b>	<b>11,00,092</b>	<b>11,35,767</b>	<b>12,95,074</b>	<b>14,57,909</b>	<b>14,94,638</b>	<b>15,41,960</b>



## Financials and valuations

### Ratios

Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
<b>Basic (INR)</b>							
<b>EPS</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>36.9</b>
Cash EPS	28.6	47.6	46.2	39.8	51.8	62.7	67.3
BV/Share (adj.)	129.9	166.1	175.0	171.8	181.1	211.3	245.5
DPS	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.7	2.7	2.7
Payout (%)	15.0	8.7	5.7	8.0	8.6	9.6	8.6
<b>Valuation (x)</b>							
P/E				18.1	13.7	8.7	7.7
Cash P/E				7.9	6.1	4.5	4.2
P/BV				1.8	1.7	1.3	1.2
EV/Sales				0.9	1.0	0.7	0.6
EV/EBITDA				7.7	7.4	5.6	4.9
Dividend Yield (%)				0.4	0.5	0.9	0.9
<b>Return Ratios (%)</b>							
EBITDA Margin (%)	12.4	12.0	11.9	12.0	12.9	13.2	13.3
Net Profit Margin (%)	1.9	3.7	4.2	3.3	4.0	4.9	5.3
RoE	7.1	12.8	14.5	10.1	13.1	16.8	16.2
RoCE (pre-tax)	8.2	9.3	10.6	8.5	8.4	9.8	10.1
RoIC (pre-tax)	9.1	10.8	11.9	10.3	9.8	11.4	12.0
<b>Working Capital Ratios</b>							
Fixed Asset Turnover (x)	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0
Asset Turnover (x)	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
Debtor (Days)	30	32	32	29	30	30	30
Inventory (Days)	67	69	62	69	70	70	70
Payable (Days)	65	65	58	56	56	56	56
<b>Leverage Ratio (x)</b>							
Current Ratio	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9
Interest Coverage Ratio	1.4	2.4	2.8	2.2	2.4	3.5	4.1
Debt/Equity	1.6	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.0	0.7

### Cash Flow Statement

Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
<b>(INR m)</b>							
EBITDA	1,24,359	1,38,204	1,55,105	1,42,060	1,65,491	1,95,463	2,04,431
EO Expense/(income)	3,622	2,617	439	-2,610	-1,730		
Tax paid	-7,797	-14,081	-18,883	-1,020	-17,936	-28,008	-29,980
Change in WC	6,691	-17,862	-16,865	-11,780	-19,984	-19,921	-10,851
<b>CF from Op. Activity</b>	<b>1,26,875</b>	<b>1,08,877</b>	<b>1,19,795</b>	<b>1,26,650</b>	<b>1,25,842</b>	<b>1,47,535</b>	<b>1,63,600</b>
(Inc.)/Dec. in FA + CWIP	-29,376	-30,008	-60,053	-67,910	-50,132	-55,132	-55,132
<b>Free Cash Flow to firm</b>	<b>97,499</b>	<b>78,870</b>	<b>59,742</b>	<b>58,740</b>	<b>75,709</b>	<b>92,402</b>	<b>1,08,467</b>
(Pur.)/Sale of Inv. and yield	5,667	24,685	6,615	7,110	15,508	15,824	16,252
Others and M&A	3,524	8,052	5,110	10,111	-1,78,337		
<b>CF from Inv. Activity</b>	<b>-20,185</b>	<b>2,730</b>	<b>-48,328</b>	<b>-50,689</b>	<b>-2,12,962</b>	<b>-39,308</b>	<b>-38,880</b>
Equity raised/(repaid)	33,141	162	-1,176				
Debt raised/(repaid)	-25,430	-1,22,863	-14,443	1,09,460	1,14,427	-30,000	-30,000
Interest	-60,754	-38,486	-35,813	-40,160	-41,640	-36,758	-33,577
Dividend (incl. tax)	-2,479	-2,938	-3,229	-3,200	-3,781	-6,005	-6,005
<b>CF from Fin. Activity</b>	<b>-55,523</b>	<b>-1,64,124</b>	<b>-54,660</b>	<b>66,100</b>	<b>69,007</b>	<b>-72,763</b>	<b>-69,582</b>
<b>(Inc.)/Dec. in Cash</b>	<b>51,167</b>	<b>-52,517</b>	<b>16,807</b>	<b>1,42,061</b>	<b>-18,113</b>	<b>35,464</b>	<b>55,138</b>
Add: Opening Balance	1,20,962	1,72,129	1,19,612	1,36,419	2,78,480	2,60,367	2,95,831
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>1,72,129</b>	<b>1,19,612</b>	<b>1,36,419</b>	<b>2,78,480</b>	<b>2,60,367</b>	<b>2,95,831</b>	<b>3,50,968</b>

## NOTES

Explanation of Investment Rating	
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)
BUY	>=15%
SELL	< - 10%
NEUTRAL	< - 10 % to 15%
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation

\*In case the recommendation given by the Research Analyst is inconsistent with the investment rating legend for a continuous period of 30 days, the Research Analyst shall within following 30 days take appropriate measures to make the recommendation consistent with the investment rating legend.

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