CMP: ₹ 171

Target: ₹ 230 (34%)

Target Period: 12 months

November 5, 2020

Decent performance despite deferred orders...

Q2FY21 revenues grew a decent 15.8% YoY to ₹ 372 crore on the back of 34.1% YoY growth in pharma segment to ₹ 279 crore. Crop protection segment fell 17.9% YoY to ₹ 93 crore due to deferral of ₹ 40 crore worth of shipment to Q3FY21. EBITDA for the quarter came in at ₹ 70 crore, up 19.6% YoY (including Covid related expenses of ₹ 1.1 crore). EBITDA margins expanded 58 bps YoY to 18.8% due to lower staff & other expenses, partly offset by lower gross margins. Adjusted PAT grew 23.8% YoY to ₹ 27 crore in line with operational performance. Delta vis-a-vis EBITDA was due to lower interest cost, partly offset by a higher tax rate.

Expertise in APIs to drive pharma growth

Hikal ventured into the pharma API business by virtue of acquisition of Novartis' Panoli plant in year 2000. In a short span of time, banking on its chemistry skills, the company has been able to tap incremental customers via the CDMO route. Hikal also operates as a dedicated API supplier as it expands its portfolio. We expect the pharma segment to grow at 14.1% CAGR in FY20-23E to ₹ 1318 crore on the back of new offerings and repeat business from CDMO customers.

Crop protection growth to piggyback on client relationship

Hikal started operations as a crop protection company in 1991 after acquiring Merck's facility in Mahad. Since then, it has come a long way with a predominantly CDMO focused business model catering mainly to global innovators. Over the years, the company has increased its product offerings with a foray into niche products and specialty chemicals. We expect crop protection segment to grow at 7.3% CAGR in FY20-23E to ₹ 766 crore due to sustained product offerings and optimum capacity utilisation.

Valuation & Outlook

Q2 revenues were in-line with I-direct estimates but profitability was higher due to better-than-expected operational performance. While pharma delivered a better-than-expected performance, crop protection performance was below par. Despite Covid-19, margin consistency is visible due to focus on high margin products and backward integration besides cost control measures. Going ahead, the management expects a margin improvement of 50-100 bps from this year onwards on the back of several cost rationalisation and efficiency improvement measures undertaken during the pandemic. Going by the capex guidance, (₹ 300 crore out of which remaining ₹ 100 crore to be spent by Q1FY22) things are looking promising for FY22 onwards. Hikal remains a fair value proposition as it continues to expand in both pharma, crop protection segments with separate focus and a calibrated approach. This bodes well in the current scenario when Chinese supply disturbances, government incentives are likely to create opportunities for Indian players both in APIs, crop protection CDMO. We arrive at a valuation of ₹ 230 based on 14x FY23E EPS of ₹ 16.6.



CICI direc

Amount
₹2112 crore
₹645 crore
₹64 crore
₹2693 crore
204/57
₹24.7 crore
₹2

Key Highlights

- Margin performance remained steady on the back of judicious product mix and focus on backward integration besides cost control measures
- proven capabilities management pedigree, we believe Hikal offers a compelling value proposition as it continues to expand in both pharma and crop protection segments
- Maintain BUY

Price chart



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Key Financial Summary					
(₹Crore)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E	CAGR (FY20-23E) %
Revenues	1507.3	1652.9	1882.4	2108.2	11.8
EBITDA	273.2	300.8	357.7	411.1	14.6
EBITDA Margins (%)	18.1	18.2	19.0	19.5	
Adjusted PAT	99.8	125.2	150.9	204.4	27.0
EPS (₹)	8.1	10.2	12.2	16.6	
PE (x)	21.2	16.9	14.0	10.3	
EV to EBITDA (x)	9.9	9.0	7.3	5.9	
Price to book (x)	2.6	2.3	2.0	1.7	
RoE (%)	12.2	13.5	14.2	16.3	
RoCE (%)	12.8	13.6	14.9	17.0	

Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Exhibit 1: Variance An ₹ crore	Q2FY21	Q2FY20	Q1FY21	VoV (0/)	QoQ (%)	Comments
				YoY (%)		
Revenue	371.9	321.1	352.8	15.8	5.4	Strong YoY growth mainly driven by 34% growth in pharma segment
Raw Material Expenses	188.6	145.0	193.3	30.1	-2.5	
Gross Margins (%)	49.3	54.8	45.2	-554 bps	410 bps	QoQ improved mainly due to improvement in product mix
Employee Expenses	39.0	43.8	42.0	-11.0	-7.2	
Other Expenditure	74.6	74.0	64.9	0.9	15.0	
Operating Profit (EBITDA)	69.8	58.4	52.5	19.6	32.8	Adjusting for Covid-19 related additional cost of ₹ 1.1 crore, EBITDA grew 21.4% YoY to ₹ 58.4 crore
EBITDA (%)	18.8	18.2	14.9	58 bps	387 bps	YoY improvement due to lower staff & other expenses partially offset by lower gross margins
Interest	8.5	13.6	9.7	-37.4	-12.2	
Depreciation	21.2	20.5	20.7	3.2	2.2	
Other Income	1.0	0.8	0.6	15.9	48.4	
PBT	41.1	25.1	22.8	63.6	80.1	
Exceptional Items	0.0	15.4	0.0	NA	NA	
Tax	14.1	3.3	7.8	324.7	81.0	
Tax Rate (%)	34.3	13.2	34.2	159.6	0.5	
Reported PAT	27.0	6.4	15.0	323.1	79.7	
Adjusted PAT	27.0	21.8	15.0	23.8	79.7	Decline mainly due to below expected operational performance
EPS (₹)	2.2	0.5	1.2	323.1	79.7	
Key Metrics						
Pharma	279.3	208.2	213.7	34.1	30.7	Strong YoY growth driven by increased volumes in newly commercialized products and commissioning of additional capacity enabled to meet higher demand
Crop Protection	92.6	112.8	139.1	-17.9	-33.4	Growth impacted amid deferral of shipments worth ₹ 40 crore from 02 to 03 due to Covid-19

Source: ICICI Direct Research

		FY21E		FY22E			Comments
(₹ Crore)	Old	New 9	6 Change	Old	New %	Change	
Revenue	1,697.8	1,652.9	-2.6	1,964.7	1,882.4	-4.2	
EBITDA	311.2	300.8	-3.4	372.4	357.7	-4.0	
EBITDA Margin (%)	18.3	18.2	-10 bps	19.0	19.0	0 bps	
PAT	132.9	125.2	-5.8	170.0	150.9	-11.2	Changed mainly due to change in depreciation
EPS (₹)	10.8	10.2	-6.0	13.8	12.2	-11.3	

Source: ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 3: Change in Estimates									
	Current Earlier								
(₹ crore)	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY21E	FY22E			
Pharma	939.1	886.9	1,039.0	1,176.5	981.9	1,135.3			
Crop Protection	650.5	620.4	602.9	683.6	695.8	806.2	Changed mainly due to lower-than-expected sales in H1		

Source: ICICI Direct Research

Conference Call Highlights

- Covid related expenses for H1FY21 were at ₹ 5.9 crore (₹ 4.7 crore in Q1, ~₹ 1.1 crore in Q2)
 - ₹ 3 crore to employees as ex-gratia
 - ₹ 2.9 crore additional other expenses
- EBITDA margin improvement due to increased efficiencies, capacity utilisation and higher volume sales in pharma segment
- Raw material imports ~40-45%, dependability on China is ~30-35%, rest from Europe and US
- Capex Resumed work after Covid disruption, commissioning expected to start from Q1FY22 (including Panoli expansion)
- Pharma Growth led by increased volumes in newly commercialised products and commissioning of additional capacity
 - Increasing trend in customer demand, positive outlook
 - Better capacity utilisation as operations recover
- Crop protection ₹ 40 crore shipment postponed to Q3
- Product pipeline Pharma: Three to four proprietary, four to five CRAMS
 - Crop: Three to four CRAMS, two proprietary products
- Capacity utilisation at 80% currently. Capex of ₹ 100 crore to be done over the next six months out of the ₹ 300 crore capex planned (20-25% capacity addition)
- The management has maintained its earlier 1.5x asset turnover guidance over 2.5-3 years
- EBITDA margins expected to improve 50-100 bps every year
- Strong growth in FY22-23 on the back of long-term contracts and other tailwinds; RoCE could be 22-24% over four to five years
- FY21 growth to be ~10%
- Will decide whether to opt for 25.2% tax rate from next year onwards
- Top 10 customer contribution
 - Pharma 65-70%, Crop 75%

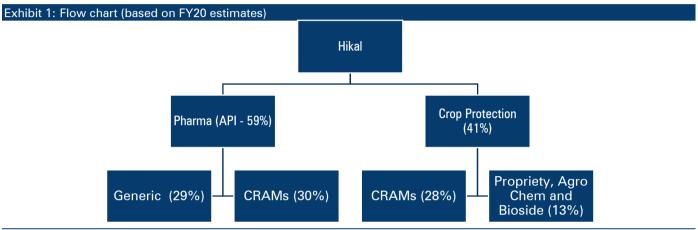
Exhibit 4: Trends in	quarte	erly per	forman	ісе											
(₹Crore) 1	2FY181	3FY181	4FY181	1FY191	2FY191	3FY191	4FY191	1FY 20 L	2FY201	3FY201	4FY201	1FY211	2FY21	YoY (%)	0 0 0 (%)
Total Operating Incon	292.3	350.6	390.5	325.6	394.8	406.0	457.5	403.2	321.1	404.1	379.0	352.8	371.9	15.8	5.4
Raw Material Expens	155.3	195.6	217.8	164.7	205.8	223.0	260.3	228.3	145.0	208.9	194.2	193.3	188.6	30.1	-2.5
% of revenue	53.1	55.8	55.8	50.6	52.1	54.9	56.9	56.6	45.2	51.7	51.2	54.8	50.7		
Gross Profit	136.9	155.1	172.7	160.9	189.0	183.0	197.3	174.9	176.1	195.2	184.8	159.4	183.4	4.1	15.0
Gross Profit Margin (46.9	44.2	44.2	49.4	47.9	45.1	43.1	43.4	54.8	48.3	48.8	45.2	49.3	-554 bps	410 bps
Employee Expenses	30.2	32.6	32.1	36.2	38.6	39.3	36.2	42.2	43.8	41.9	40.0	42.0	39.0	-11.0	-7.2
% of revenue	10.3	9.3	8.2	11.1	9.8	9.7	7.9	10.5	13.6	10.4	10.6	11.9	10.5		
Other Expenses	53.0	55.6	69.1	64.0	75.2	71.0	77.0	64.2	74.0	77.7	74.2	64.9	74.6	0.9	15.0
% of revenue	18.1	15.9	17.7	19.7	19.1	17.5	16.8	15.9	23.0	19.2	19.6	18.4	20.1		
Total Expenditure	238.5	283.8	319.0	265.0	319.6	333.4	373.5	334.7	262.7	328.4	308.4	300.2	302.2	15.0	0.6
% of revenue	81.6	80.9	81.7	81.4	81.0	82.1	81.6	83.0	81.8	81.3	81.4	85.1	81.2		
EBITDA	53.8	66.9	71.5	60.6	75.2	72.6	84.0	68.5	58.4	75.7	70.6	52.5	69.8	19.6	32.8
EBITDA Margins (%)	18.4	19.1	18.3	18.6	19.0	17.9	18.4	17.0	18.2	18.7	18.6	14.9	18.8	58 bps	387 bps
Depreciation	21.5	21.5	21.4	22.6	23.6	23.5	23.2	20.3	20.5	20.7	20.9	20.7	21.2	3.2	2.2
Interest	13.1	11.9	12.5	16.0	16.4	13.4	12.6	12.1	13.6	13.1	13.7	9.7	8.5	-37.4	-12.2
Other Income	0.4	0.9	1.6	1.4	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.5	1.7	0.6	1.0	15.9	48.4
Forex & EO	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-15.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
PBT	19.7	34.4	39.2	23.4	35.5	36.3	48.2	36.8	9.7	42.3	37.7	22.8	41.1	323.6	80.1
Total Tax	4.3	11.1	13.9	7.5	11.1	12.6	14.8	11.6	3.3	14.0	13.3	7.8	14.1	324.7	81.0
Tax rate (%)	22.0	32.4	35.3	32.0	31.3	34.7	30.8	31.5	34.3	33.0	35.1	34.2	34.3	8.6	16.7
Adjusted PAT	15.3	23.2	25.3	15.9	24.4	23.7	33.3	25.2	21.8	28.4	24.5	15.0	27.0	23.8	79.7
EPS (₹	1.2	1.9	2.1	1.3	2.0	1.9	2.7	2.0	1.8	2.3	2.0	1.2	2.2	23.8	79.7

Source: ICICI Direct Research

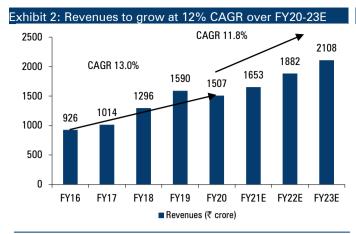
Company background

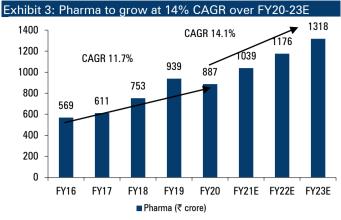
Established in 1988, Hikal is predominantly a B2B player that provides intermediates and active ingredients to global pharmaceutical, animal health, crop protection and specialty chemical companies. For FY20, pharma and crop protection accounted for 59% and 41%, respectively, of operating revenues. The pharma business is currently divided almost equally between generic active pharma ingredients (APIs) and contract development and manufacturing organisation (CDMO) businesses. Animal health business accounts for 20-25% of CDMO business. In crop protection, 70% of revenues are derived from CDMO with the remaining from proprietary products, specialty chemicals and specialty biocides. Hikal owns five manufacturing facilities: Taloja, Mahad (Maharashtra), Panoli (Gujarat) Jigani (Karnataka) and an R&D centre at Pune.

Hikal is predominantly a B2B player that provides intermediates and active ingredients to global pharmaceuticals, animal health, crop protection and specialty chemicals companies



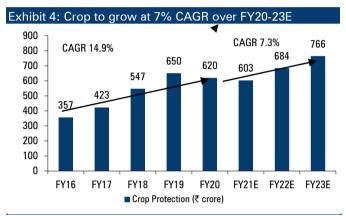
Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

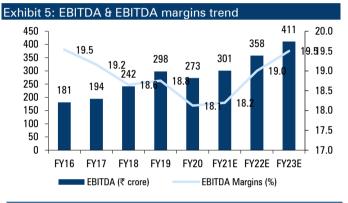




Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

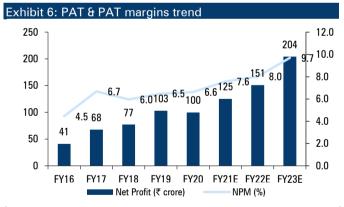
Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

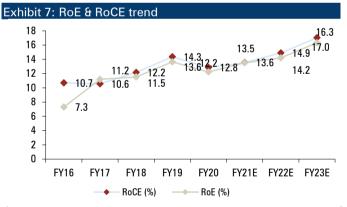




Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company





Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Exhibit	8: Valuation	n						
	Revenues	Growth	Adj. EPS	Growth	P/E	EV/EBITDA	RoE	RoCE
	(₹crore)	(%)	(₹	(%)	(x)	(X)	(%)	(%)
FY20	1507	-5	8.1	-3	21.2	9.9	12.2	12.8
FY21E	1653	9.7	10.2	25.4	16.9	9.0	13.5	13.6
FY22E	1882	13.9	12.2	20.5	14.0	7.3	14.2	14.9
FY23E	2108	12.0	16.6	35.5	10.3	5.9	16.3	17.0

Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Exhibit 9: Shareho	olding Pattern				
(in %)	Sep-19	Dec-19	Mar-20	Jun-20	Sep-20
Promoter	68.8	68.8	68.8	68.8	68.8
0 thers	31.2	31.2	31.2	31.2	31.2

Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Financial Summary

(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Revenues	1,507.3	1,652.9	1,882.4	2,108.2
G rowth (%)	-5.2	9.7	13.9	12.0
Raw Material Expenses	776.3	858.8	967.2	1,083.3
Employee Expenses	167.8	173.8	195.3	213.
Other Manufacturing Expenses	290.0	319.5	362.1	400.3
Total Operating Expenditure	1,234.1	1,352.1	1,524.7	1,697.
EBITDA	273.2	300.8	357.7	411.
Growth (%)	-8.4	10.1	18.9	14.
Interest	52.4	35.2	32.7	26.
Depreciation	82.5	84.2	113.2	119.
O ther Income	3.7	4.0	3.8	8.
PBT before Exceptional Iten	142.0	185.4	215.6	273.
Less: Forex & Exceptional Iter	15.4	0.0	0.0	0.
PBT	126.6	185.4	215.6	273.
Total Tax	42.1	60.1	64.7	68.
PAT before MI	84.4	125.2	150.9	204.
Minority Interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
PAT	84.4	125.2	150.9	204.
Adjusted PAT	99.8	125.2	150.9	204.
G rowth (%)	-3.2	25.4	20.5	35.
EPS	6.8	10.2	12.2	16.
EPS (Adjusted)	8.1	10.2	12.2	16.

Extribit 111 Oddit 110 V Otatornoi	11 11 01 01	9		
(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Profit/(Loss) after taxation	117.7	125.2	150.9	204.4
Add: Depreciation & Amortization	82.5	84.2	113.2	119.6
Add: Interest Cost	52.4	35.2	32.7	26.7
Net Increase in Current Assets	34.6	-68.9	-105.8	-104.9
Net Increase in Current Liabilities	-3.5	24.7	36.5	36.6
0 thers	1.3	0	0	0
CF from operating activities	284.9	200.4	227.4	282.4
(Inc)/dec in Fixed Assets	-158.0	-160.0	-80.0	-80.0
(Inc)/dec in Investments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
0 thers	89.6	-1.1	-1.0	-0.9
CF from investing activities	-68.4	-161.1	-81.0	-80.9
Inc / (Dec) in Equity Capital	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Inc / (Dec) in sec. Loan	-25.0	0.0	-100.0	-100.0
Dividend & Dividend Tax	-23.8	-14.8	-14.8	-14.8
0 thers	-52.1	-35.2	-32.7	-26.7
CF from financing activities	-100.9	-50.0	-147.5	-141.5
Net Cash flow	115.7	-10.7	-1.1	60.0
Opening Cash	-52.1	63.6	52.9	51.8
Closing Cash	63.6	52.9	51.8	111.8
Free Cash Flow	126.9	40.4	147.4	202.4

Exhibit 11: Cash Flow Statement (₹ crore)

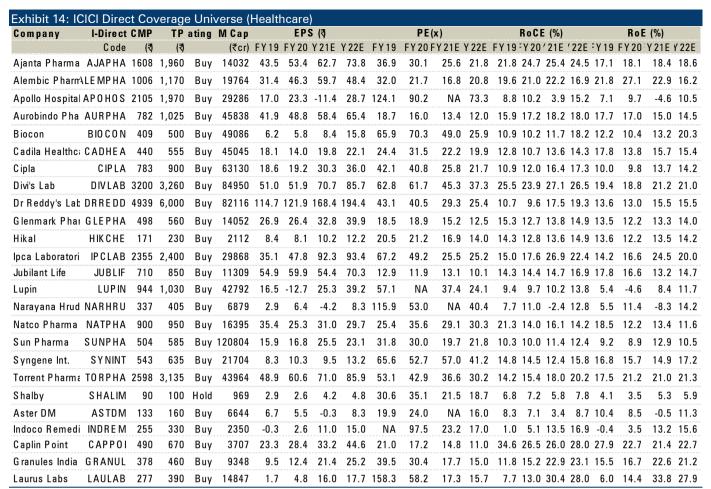
Source: ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 12: Balance Sheet (र	crore)			
(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
E quity Capital	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7
Reserve and Surplus	791.8	902.3	1,038.4	1,228.0
Total Shareholders fund	816.5	926.9	1,063.0	1,252.7
Total Debt	644.7	644.7	544.7	444.7
Others Liabilities	51.8	55.5	59.5	63.9
Source of Funds	1,513.0	1,627.1	1,667.2	1,761.3
Gross Block - Fixed Assets	1,064.9	1,084.9	1,414.9	1,494.9
Accumulated Depreciation	329.7	413.9	527.1	646.7
Net Block	735.2	671.0	887.8	848.2
Capital WIP	160.8	300.8	50.8	50.8
Net Fixed Assets	896.0	971.8	938.6	899.1
Investments	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Inventory	312.5	342.6	390.2	437.0
Cash	63.6	52.9	51.8	111.8
Debtors	340.4	373.3	425.2	476.2
Loans & Advances & Other CA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Current Assets	774.8	833.0	937.7	1,102.6
Creditors	201.2	220.6	251.2	281.4
Provisions & Other CL	53.8	59.1	65.0	71.4
Total Current Liabilities	255.0	279.7	316.2	352.8
Net Current Assets	519.8	553.2	621.5	749.8
LT L& A, Other Assets	96.5	101.3	106.4	111.7
Application of Funds	1,513.0	1,627.1	1,667.2	1,761.3
Courses ICICI Direct Pagagraph				

Source: ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 13: Key Ratios (₹ crore)				
(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Per share data (₹)				
EPS	8.1	10.2	12.2	16.6
Cash EPS	7.1	9.0	11.0	15.4
BV	66.2	75.2	86.2	101.6
DPS	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2
Cash Per Share	26.7	33.6	42.7	52.4
Operating Ratios (%)				
Gross Margins	48.5	48.0	48.6	48.6
EBITDA margins	18.1	18.2	19.0	19.5
Net Profit margins	6.6	7.6	8.0	9.7
Inventory days	75.7	75.7	75.7	75.7
Debtor days	82.4	82.4	82.4	82.4
Creditor days	48.7	48.7	48.7	48.7
Asset Turnover	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.4
Return Ratios (%)				
RoE	12.2	13.5	14.2	16.3
RoCE	12.8	13.6	14.9	17.0
RoIC	14.8	17.0	15.6	18.2
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	21.2	16.9	14.0	10.3
EV / EBITDA	9.9	9.0	7.3	5.9
EV / Revenues	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.2
Market Cap / Revenues	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0
Price to Book Value	2.6	2.3	2.0	1.7
Solvency Ratios				
Debt / Equity	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.4
Debt/E BITD A	2.4	2.1	1.5	1.1
Current Ratio	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
Source: ICICI Direct Research			· ·	

Source: ICICI Direct Research



Source: ICICI Direct Research, Bloomberg



RATING RATIONALE

ICICI Direct endeavours to provide objective opinions and recommendations. ICICI Direct assigns ratings to its stocks according to their notional target price vs. current market price and then categorises them as Buy, Hold, Reduce and Sell. The performance horizon is two years unless specified and the notional target price is defined as the analysts' valuation for a stock

Buy: >15%;

Hold: -5% to 15%; Reduce: -5% to -15%;

Sell: <-15%



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ANALYST CERTIFICATION

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