

Godrej Consumer

BSE SENSEX

52,276

S&P CNX

15,740

CMP: INR856
TP: INR1,020 (+19%)
Buy

Motilal Oswal values your support in the Asiamoney Brokers Poll 2021 for India Research, Sales, Corporate Access and Trading team. We request your ballot.


CONSUMER PRODUCTS
Stock Info

Bloomberg	GCPL IN
Equity Shares (m)	1,022
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	875 / 12
52-Week Range (INR)	895 / 592
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	16/6/-22
12M Avg Val (INR M)	1260

Financials Snapshot (INR b)

Y/E March	2021	2022E	2023E
Sales	110.3	120.3	133.0
Sales Gr. (%)	11.3	9.1	10.5
EBITDA	23.9	26.4	29.8
EBITDA mrg. (%)	21.7	21.9	22.4
Adj. PAT	17.7	19.1	22.1
Adj. EPS (INR)	17.3	18.7	21.7
EPS Gr. (%)	21.9	8.2	15.9
BV/Sh.(INR)	92.3	96.6	101.5

Ratios

RoE (%)	20.4	19.8	21.9
RoCE (%)	18.3	20.2	22.2
Payout (%)	57.9	64.2	64.6

Valuations

P/E (x)	49.6	45.8	39.5
P/BV (x)	9.3	8.9	8.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	36.7	33.0	29.1
Div. Yield (%)	1.2	1.4	1.6

Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Mar-21	Dec-20	Mar-20
Promoter	63.2	63.2	63.2
DII	3.1	3.1	3.1
FII	26.6	26.8	26.3
Others	7.1	6.9	7.3

FII Includes depository receipts

Pieces of the growth puzzle coming together

- Transformational changes likely:** As stated in our [upgrade note](#) four weeks ago, we regard the appointment of Mr. Sudhir Sitapati as MD and CEO from Oct'21 as a potential transformational change for GCPL's prospects. In that note, we highlighted: a) weak domestic sales growth in the last five years; b) Mr. Sitapati's pedigree, experience, tenure of his appointment as CEO, as well as his young age, enabling potentially significant extension of tenure; c) how new CEOs with a fresh thought process have led to structural change in the earnings prospects of Consumer companies like BRIT, NEST, JUBI, and HUVR over the last 15 years; and d) how the low penetration in Household Insecticides and Hair Color offers a high growth opportunity. All these factors led us to upgrade the stock to Buy after over a decade of maintaining our Neutral rating.
- Other pieces of the growth puzzle are also coming together:** We think Mr. Sitapati's appointment fills an important piece of the puzzle that is the key to unlocking sustainable topline and earnings growth in GCPL. A few other pieces have also fallen into place in recent years, namely: a) moratorium on big ticket acquisitions and far better capital allocation in recent years, particularly in the international business (~45% of sales); b) sale of the UK business, potential sale (in our view) of the LatAm business, appointment of Mr. Dharnesh Gordhon (former head of Nestle Nigeria) as GCPL's Africa business head over a year ago, with good initial results; and c) potential tailwinds in Soaps (GCPL's second largest domestic segment, contributing ~18% to consolidated sales in FY21) and the broader Personal Wash category, leading to higher growth and significant premiumization, which was proving elusive in this category over the last decade.
- Delving into the factors behind the underperformance, recent changes and prospects:** In this note, we delve further into: 1) the underperformance of each domestic segment in the past five years compared to the past, and the reasons why the growth potential is high, 2) how the potential tailwind in Soaps could lead to much higher topline growth, 3) what has happened after Mr. Gordhon took over as CEO of the Africa business and his targets, and 4) what has GCPL done in recent years on the capital allocation front.

Valuation and view

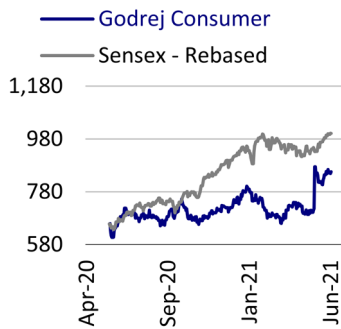
- As highlighted in our [upgrade note](#), we believe that Mr. Sudhir Sitapati's appointment as MD and CEO for a period of five years could have a transformational change in GCPL's fortunes.
- Many of GCPL's domestic categories have underperformed in recent years, despite low penetration levels. As a result, domestic sales CAGR for the four years ending FY20 has only been ~3% CAGR.

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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.motilalosal.com/Institutional-Equities, Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, Factset and S&P Capital.

Stock Performance (1-year)

- Even with a healthy growth of ~14% YoY in FY21, its five-year domestic sales CAGR hovers ~5%. Given its much superior margin and RoCE in the domestic business, this slowdown was a key factor behind weak consolidated earnings CAGR of ~8% in the past five years.
- Mr. Sitapati's appointment fills another important piece of the puzzle that unlocks the path to strong earnings growth for GCPL, along with: a) better capital allocation efforts in recent years, b) appointment of a new head in the erstwhile significantly underperforming GAUM (largely Africa) business, with good initial results in the first year of his tenure in FY21, and c) potential tailwind in Soaps and Personal Wash products, led by more frequent usage post COVID-19 and sharp increase in penetration levels in the Hand Wash category.
- While the stock has rallied nearly 20% on the announcement of Mr. Sitapati's appointment, we believe this spurt is just the first step of what could be potentially massive revitalization of both earnings and RoCE over the next few years, leading to a sustained re-rating as well. We have seen transformative changes on all these fronts in the past with companies like BRIT, NEST, JUBI, and HUVR. There are no changes to our modest earnings growth forecasts of ~8%/16% in FY22E/FY23E as we await the path to growth that the new CEO unveils when he joins in Oct'21. Valuing GCPL at 45x Jun'23E EPS (40x Mar'23E earlier), we arrive at our TP of INR1,020, a 19% upside to its CMP.

Domestic sales slowdown, components, and factors

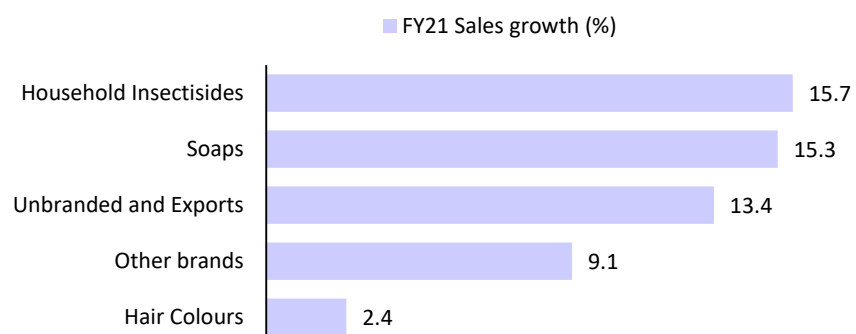
- After many years, FY21 was a good year for GCPL on the domestic sales (55% of consolidated sales) front, with ~14% topline growth, led by its two largest components: Soaps (~33%/~18% of domestic/consolidated sales) and Household Insecticides (~41%/~22% of domestic/consolidated sales). Both these segments grew 15-16% in FY21, aided by a tailwind in Personal Wash consumption led by COVID-19 while the fear of falling sick led to higher usage of Household Insecticide products. The discretionary portfolio of Hair Color (~10%/~6% of domestic/consolidated sales) and other brands (~14%/~8% of domestic/consolidated sales), including car/home fragrances, didn't do as well as has been the case with many such Consumer categories in FY21.

Exhibit 1: Domestic sales growth slows down, some revival seen in FY21

Segment revenue (INR m)	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
Household Insecticides	23,025	23,226	22,630	22,540	21,900	25,340
Soaps	15,922	15,515	18,020	18,920	17,760	20,470
Hair Colors	5,787	5,933	6,220	6,730	6,270	6,420
Other brands	3,585	4,842	5,990	7,400	7,890	8,610
Unbranded and exports	2,216	2,257	2,700	3,030	2,920	3,310
Total	50,534	51,773	55,560	58,620	56,740	64,150
Segment revenue growth (%)						
Household Insecticides	-	0.9	(2.6)	(0.4)	(2.8)	15.7
Soaps	-	(2.6)	16.1	5.0	(6.1)	15.3
Hair Colors	-	2.5	4.8	8.2	(6.8)	2.4
Other brands	-	35.1	23.7	23.5	6.6	9.1
Unbranded and exports	-	1.8	19.6	12.2	(3.6)	13.4
Total	-	2.5	7.3	5.5	(3.2)	13.1
Segment revenue mix (%)						
Household Insecticides	46	45	41	38	39	40
Soaps	32	30	32	32	31	32
Hair Colors	11	11	11	11	11	10
Other brands	7	9	11	13	14	13
Unbranded and exports	4	4	5	5	5	5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Company, MOFSL

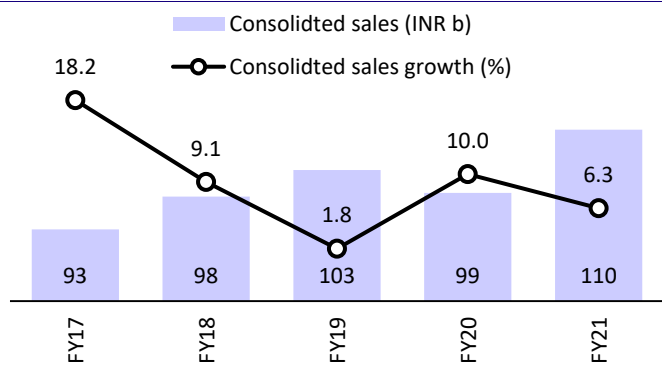
Exhibit 2: Sales growth in FY21 was robust across all segments barring Hair Color



Source: Company, MOFSL

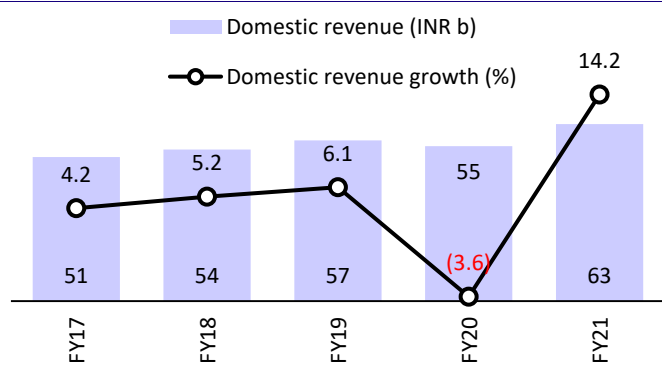
- While its performance in FY21 deserves to be lauded, the CAGR growth in GCPL’s domestic sales and most of its components has been disappointing, both from a five year CAGR (including FY21) as well as four year CAGR for the preceding four years. There have been a few mitigating factors, including an overall slowdown in demand, led by a weak rural environment and GDP growth, that has impacted the performance of most Consumer companies in the last five years of the preceding decade compared to the first half. Demonetization and GST also led to significant disruptions over the last five years. Ind AS and GST accounting, which led to promotion spends being netted off against sales, instead of being shown as expenses, were a factor behind the slower reported sales growth.
- Nevertheless, it is also true that its three largest domestic segments have done poorly in recent years. Domestic sales grew at 2.9% CAGR over FY17-20. Even with the healthy growth in FY21, its five year CAGR in domestic sales has been 5.1%
- Household Insecticides sales actually reported a 1.2% negative CAGR over FY16-20. Despite a healthy (15.7% growth) performance in FY21, it reported an unimpressive 1.9% sales CAGR in the five years ending FY21. Similarly, sales of Soaps have grown at 2.8%/5.2% CAGR over these periods and Hair Color has grown at 2%/2.1% CAGR. While FY21 temporarily affected discretionary consumption, leading to ~9% sales growth in FY21, ‘other brands’ have been the sole bright spot in recent years, with sales growth at 21.8%/19.2% CAGR over FY16-20/FY16-21.

Exhibit 3: Consolidated sales CAGR was 4.4% over FY17-21...



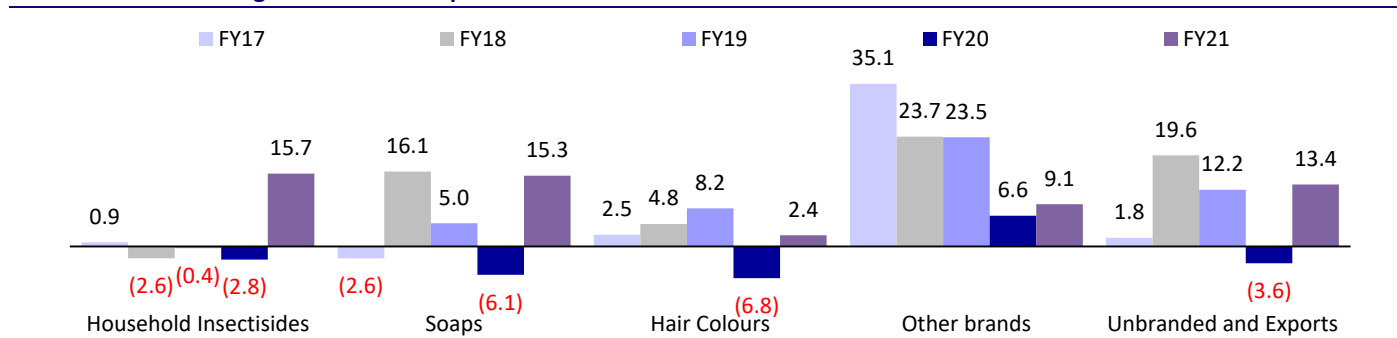
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 4: ...with domestic sales CAGR being 5.3% over the same period



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 5: Domestic segment-wise sales performance



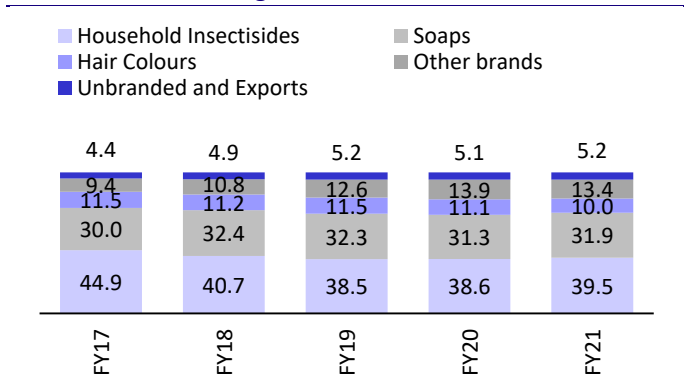
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 6: Domestic growth over the last five years has been tepid barring other brands

Segment revenue (INR m)	CAGR (%) FY16-20	CAGR (%) FY16-21
Household Insecticides	(1.2)	1.9
Soaps	2.8	5.2
Hair Colors	2.0	2.1
Other brands	21.8	19.2
Unbranded and exports	7.1	8.4
Total domestic	2.9	5.1

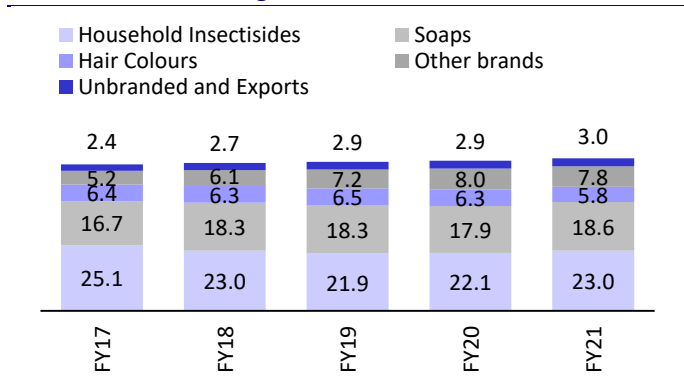
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 7: Domestic segment's salience to domestic sales



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 8: Domestic segment salience to consolidated sales



Source: Company, MOFSL

Innovation has not been a problem...

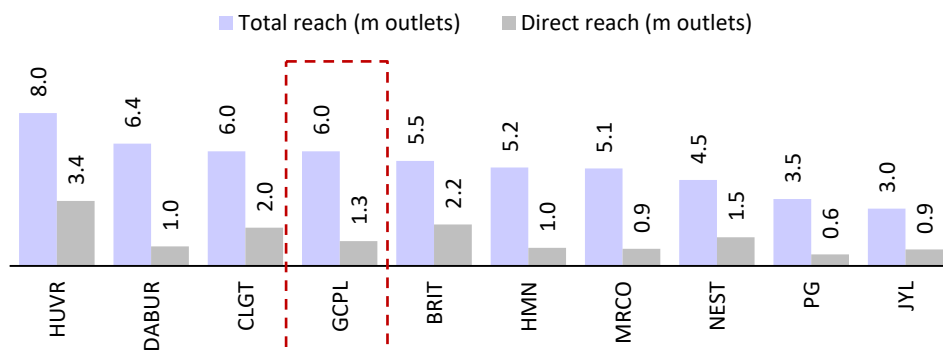
- GCPL has been at the forefront of innovation in the last five years in terms of quantity, and leads the category in innovation efforts.

Exhibit 9: New products launches for the domestic business in FY19, FY20 and FY21

Launch year	Product	Type of launch	Category
FY19	Godrej Professional	New	Hair Care
	Godrej Nupur natural henna based hair color	New	Hair Color
	Cinthol men's grooming range	New	Men's grooming
	Good Knight Power chip	New	Household Insecticides
	Good Knight Naturals neem agarbatti	New	Household Insecticides
	Kala HIT lime fresh	Variant	Household Insecticides
	Godrej Aer matic automatic fragrance diffuser	New	Home Freshener
	Protekt Mr. Magic	New	Liquid Hand Wash
FY20	Godrej Expert Easy 5 minute shampoo hair color	Relaunch	Hair Color
	Expert Crème	Relaunch	Hair Color
	Godrej Anoop Ayurvedic anti-hair fall oil on e-commerce	Relaunch	Hair Care
	Good Knight - Gold Flash LV	New	Household Insecticides
	Good Knight natural range for e-commerce	New	Household Insecticides
	HIT Anti Mosquito Racquet in e-commerce and HIT Rat Glue pad	New	Household Insecticides
	AER Smart Matic	New	Home Freshener
	Chandan Abhyang Snaan (in MH) and Extra Strong Lime (in Punjab)	Regional new launch	Hygiene
	Sanitizer range of health and hygiene products	New	Hygiene
	Protekt Health Soap	New	Hygiene
	Godrej ProClean range (toilet cleaner, bathroom cleaner, floor cleaner)	New	Hygiene
	Goodness.me	Brand launch	Baby products
	Godrej Ezee 2-in-1 liquid detergent and fabric conditioner	New	Fabric Care
Cinthol Charcoal Soap	New	Hygiene	
FY21	Full range of Hygiene products launched under Godrej Protekt (in India) (~ 45 new products launched across different markets)	New	Hygiene
	Good Knight Smart Spay	Regional new launch	Household Insecticides

Source: Company, MOFSL

- New product launches are expected to contribute nearly 5% of total domestic sales. So, the management's efforts in recent years have been commendable.

Exhibit 10: Among peers, GCPL has one of the widest distribution networks with a healthy direct reach as well

Source: Company, MOFSL

...but execution has been an issue

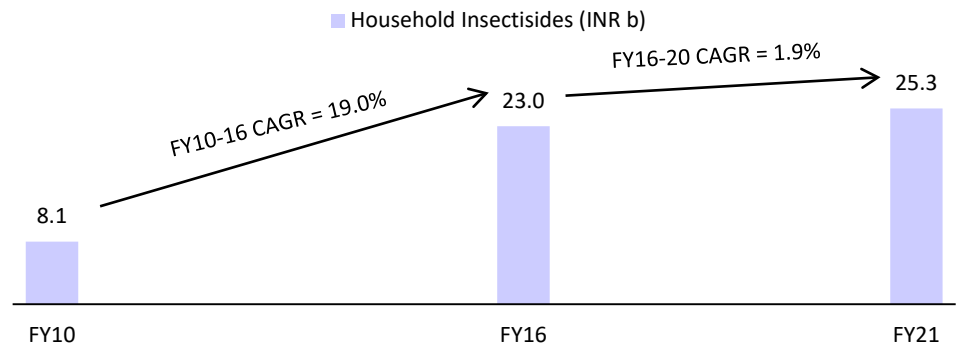
- GCPL's underperformance in the domestic business in the last five years is in strong contrast to its performance in the first half of the preceding decade. Despite continued low penetration (~30%) in Hair Color and significant growth opportunities in domestic Household Insecticides (50%/70% rural/urban penetration), growth in both these segments has been very weak in the past five years as highlighted earlier. Lack of traction in the premium end of the Hair Color market (where L'Oreal/Garnier is a strong player) as well as a few missteps in Household Insecticides have contributed to the lack of growth. In Household Insecticides, two factors have notably held back performance:
 - Failure to respond in a timely manner to the burgeoning incense stick format (~15% of the ~INR50b category from a negligible presence 6-7 years ago). Despite an eventual launch, GCPL remains a marginal player in this largely unorganized sub-segment of the HI category.
 - Inability to drive category penetration with low price alternatives, similar to what Good Knight Fast Card did in the early part of the last decade. A few years ago, the company launched Good Knight Power Chip, which failed due to a design flaw that resulted in the customer peeling off the active ingredient while opening the wrapper.

Segmental performance over the last decade**Household Insecticides**

- In the earlier part of the previous decade, Household Insecticides witnessed extremely strong sales growth (19% CAGR) over FY10-16. Growth tapered off in the latter part of the decade, falling to just 1.9% CAGR over FY16-21.
- Competition from (mostly illicit) incense sticks, which gained popularity, particularly in the rural market, due to their easy access and affordability, was a major factor as was the inability to succeed with a blockbuster low price product similar to Good Knight Fast Card in the earlier part of the decade.
- In FY10, GCPL had a market share of 33.1% in a category valued at INR23b. At present, Household Insecticides has a penetration of ~70%/50% in urban/rural.
- GCPL continues to innovate in this segment. Recently, it announced the launch of Good Knight Smart Spray as a test marketing effort in Andhra Pradesh. The

product is touted to have a unique combination of non-gas with SOS, while delivering an eight-hour efficacy, which could be a significant category driver.

Exhibit 11: Growth in HI has slowed in the latter part of the last decade

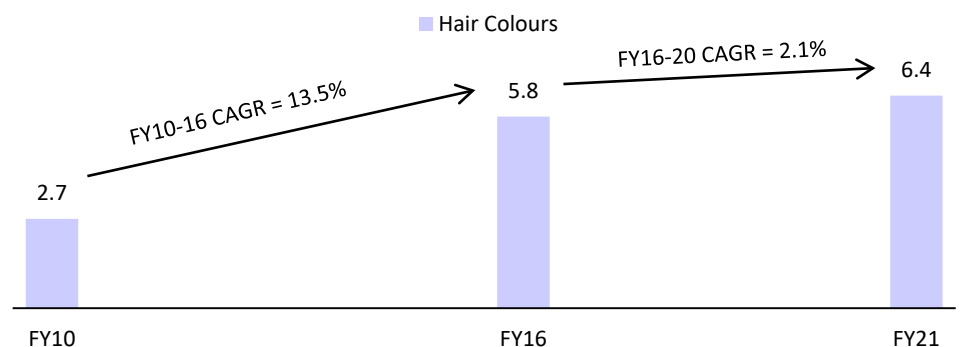


Source: Company, MOFSL

Hair Color

- A similar narrative can be used to describe GCPL’s Hair Color segment. Growing at a robust 13.5% CAGR over FY10-16, growth was unimpressive (at 2.1% CAGR) in the latter half of the decade.
- The category continues to be significantly underpenetrated, with levels of 30-35% as per latest reports.
- GCPL has a 25% domestic market share in the category, which is valued at INR25b.
- Performance has been even poorer in recent years, especially in the urban market. In CY19, L’Oreal emerged as the numero uno player in the urban Hair Color segment with a 25.8% share, followed by GCPL (24%). L’Oreal’s success is attributable to its higher share in the salon channel, though GCPL still leads in the mass market category.

Exhibit 12: Hair Color remains an underpenetrated low growth category



Source: Company, MOFSL

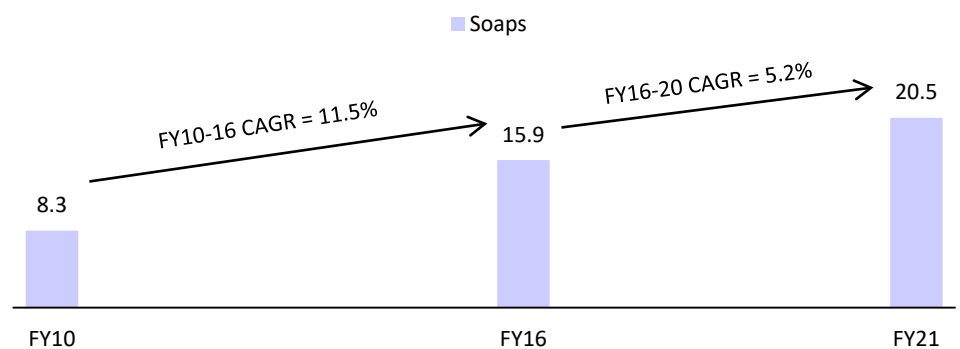
Soaps

- Soaps is the most penetrated category domestically, with over 95% penetration.
- While growth was slower in the earlier part of the decade v/s other categories, it is still impressive considering a higher base and greater penetration levels.

Growth slowed to 5.2% CAGR over FY16-21, though it's still faster than other categories during the period.

- GCPL has gained market share in the Soaps category to early teen levels by the end of FY21 from ~10% at the beginning of the last decade.
- Segment leader HUVR has done an outstanding job deepening category penetration, especially in the hinterland. GCPL has been able to follow suit. With a total reach of 6m outlets, GCPL is well placed to ride the tailwinds provided by a shift in consumer behavior, owing to COVID-19 and the need for hygienic practices, which is here to stay.

Exhibit 13: Soaps has performed better than other categories in the latter half of the decade considering a higher base and penetration levels but is still worse off compared to the past



Source: Company, MOFSL

Huge potential tailwinds in Soaps going ahead

- Unlike other large categories like Detergents, where despite over 95% penetration levels similar to Soaps, sales growth has been healthy and margin improvement has been strong due to premiumization, the same was elusive for Soaps over the last decade. Nevertheless, GCPL has actually performed better than its peers in growing its market share by 300-400bp to early teen levels over the last decade. It has emerged the second largest player in this category.
- COVID-19 seems to have provided the fillip required for higher usage of Soaps and premium Personal Wash products like Hand Washes. Our discussions with industry participants indicate that even as sales of categories like Sanitizers dipped after the initial sharp spurt, higher usage of Soaps persists and Hand Wash penetration more than doubled to nearly mid-30s from mid-teen levels. Even if there is some dip from current levels, habit formation over a reasonably pronged period of time is likely to ensure high usage and premiumization. This could have significant positive effects on the growth and margin trajectory of GCPL's second largest domestic business segment that constitutes ~33%/18% of domestic/consolidated sales.

Underperformance in the Africa business and potential revival

- The Africa business (along with the US and Middle East), referred to by the company as GAUM, has been the biggest pain point for GCPL for several years. Sales growth has been tepid in the past four years. Margin had collapsed to 7.3%

in FY20 from high-teen levels in the middle of the last decade. This translated to segment EBIT nearly halving over FY17-20.

Exhibit 14: Performance of the International business

Revenue (INR m)	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
India	50,890	53,547	56,793	54,745	62,543
Indonesia	15,276	13,545	15,249	16,959	17,700
Africa (including SON)	20,321	21,850	24,560	23,162	24,985
Others	10,760	11,397	7,702	5,556	6,659
Geography-wise revenue growth (%)					
India	4.2	5.2	6.1	(3.6)	14.2
Indonesia	5.3	(11.3)	12.6	11.2	4.4
Africa (including SON)	51.5	7.5	12.4	(5.7)	7.9
Others	(9.8)	5.9	(32.4)	(27.9)	19.9
Geography-wise revenue mix (%)					
India	52.3	53.4	54.4	54.5	55.9
Indonesia	15.7	13.5	14.6	16.9	15.8
Africa (including SON)	20.9	21.8	23.5	23.1	22.3
Others	11.1	11.4	7.4	5.5	6.0
EBIT (INR m)					
India	11,369	13,303	15,126	14,576	16,341
Indonesia	3,109	3,239	3,931	4,601	4,809
Africa (including SON)	3,076	2,677	1,904	1,692	1,065
Others	1,424	1,453	205	89	716
EBIT growth (%)					
India	15.4	17.0	13.7	(3.6)	12.1
Indonesia	7.0	4.2	21.4	17.1	4.5
Africa (including SON)	35.9	(13.0)	(28.8)	(11.2)	(37.0)
Others	(5.6)	2.0	(85.9)	(56.5)	702.5
EBIT margin (%)					
India	22.3	24.8	26.6	26.6	26.1
Indonesia	20.4	23.9	25.8	27.1	27.2
Africa (including SON)	15.1	12.2	7.8	7.3	4.3
Others	13.2	12.7	2.7	1.6	10.7

Source: Company, MOFSL

- Indonesia, which has seen low single-digit sales growth, faces an uncertain economic environment in the near future. It has a good portfolio and EBIT growth has been in double-digit CAGR for the last 4-5 years. Other's segment has started reporting better numbers, with the sale of the UK business and some revival in LatAm (which in our view, could be sold off if the company finds the right buyer). The deteriorating performance in Africa until FY20 was a big worry.
- As highlighted in our [detailed note](#), post the analyst meet regarding the Africa business in Mar'21, there have been considerable signs of promise after the appointment of Mr. Gordhon (former Nestle Nigeria head) as the head of the GAUM business since 1st Apr'20. While EBIT margin appears suppressed in FY21, it was mainly on account of a loss in the first quarter due to COVID-related disruptions. Subsequent quarters have seen better margin, with EBIT margin at 6.4%/9.3%/3.5% in 2Q/3Q/4QFY21.
- In FY21, sales growth was 7.9%. EBITDA margin contracted by 300bp to 4.3%, and EBITDA declined 37% to INR1b.

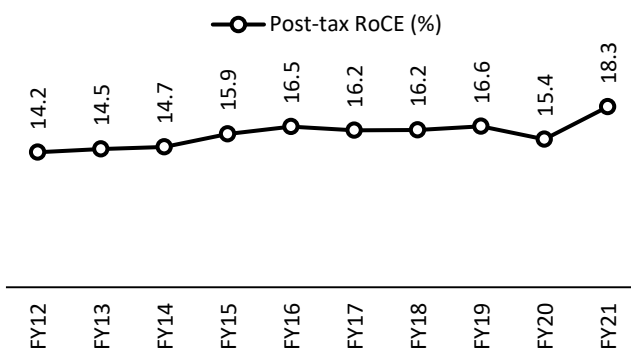
A few key points from the Mar'21 analyst meet held to discuss the prospects of the GAUM business

- At the analyst meet, Mr. Gordhon admitted that a lot of work still needs to be done. Work on turning around core geographies would be an 18-month process, with others scheduled for the next stage after that.
- **The target is to first achieve double-digit sales growth and eventually 17-18% margin in 4-5 years** (using levers like pricing, operating model changes, scale, and premiumization), thus ensuring that the business is not dilutive to consolidated margin (21.7% in FY21). From a geographical perspective, he feels the company needs to grow further in Nigeria as it is the largest market in Africa.
- Mr. Gordhon believes in placing a lot of onus on local management teams across geographies due to their local knowledge. He wants to encourage a mindset of collaborative work and discipline. He sees change as a natural process and looks to achieve more with less. He aims to ensure that there is discipline in execution.
- Margin is targeted to return to levels last seen in FY16. If the company achieves ~10% sales CAGR (targeting double-digit), 17-18% margin in 4-5 years will entail over 4x jump in segmental EBITDA over FY20 levels.

Capital allocation

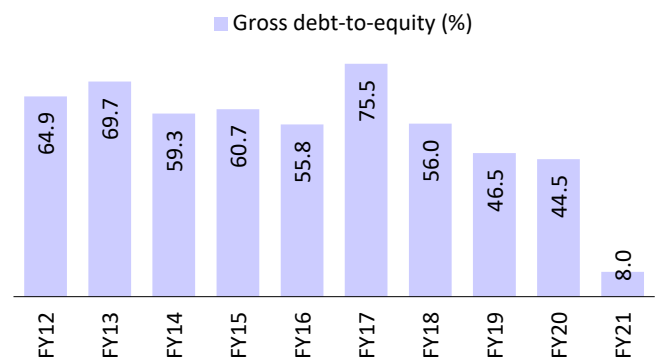
- While strong topline and earnings growth has been elusive in recent years, GCPL has actually done well on the capital allocation front in recent years. Moratorium on big ticket acquisitions, sale of the UK business, efforts to improve working capital days, and modest capex compared to the first half of the decade has actually resulted in improved OCF/FCF, gradually pushed up overall RoCE levels, and resulted in a significant reduction in debt-to-equity levels. If these efforts on the Balance Sheet continue and the company is able to attain healthy topline growth, especially in its greater margin and higher RoCE domestic business, these metrics could improve sharply going forward.

Exhibit 15: Consolidated RoCE over the last decade



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 16: Gross debt-to-equity has seen a tremendous improvement over the last decade



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 17: While consolidated cash conversion cycle has improved considerably over the last four years...

Cash conversion cycle	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
Days (on an average)										
Inventory days	46	52	51	47	52	54	55	55	60	57
Debtor days	32	34	35	34	42	42	42	45	45	36
Creditor days	41	51	54	51	46	54	76	87	92	77
Cash conversion cycle	37	35	32	30	47	41	22	14	13	16
Days (on a year-end basis)										
Inventory days	59	60	52	47	57	56	59	55	63	57
Debtor days	35	41	35	35	48	41	46	46	43	33
Creditor days	58	59	59	48	45	68	87	90	91	71
Cash conversion cycle	36	42	28	35	60	28	17	11	14	19

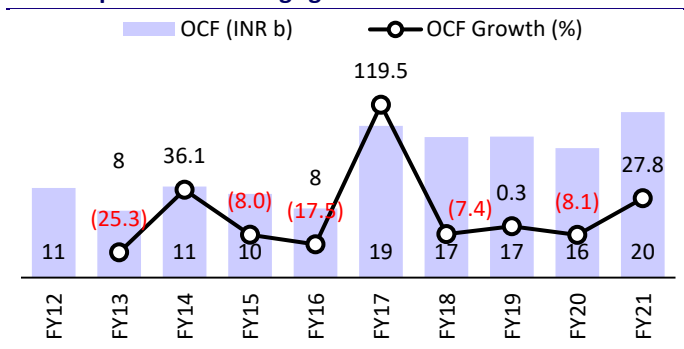
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 18: ...GCPL's standalone cash conversion cycle is far superior despite the deterioration in recent years

Cash conversion cycle	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
Days (on an average)										
Inventory days	45	49	46	41	40	43	39	38	42	40
Debtor days	12	11	12	12	16	19	16	19	22	16
Creditor days	48	61	65	67	55	68	89	94	90	64
Cash conversion cycle	9	(1)	(8)	(14)	1	(6)	(34)	(36)	(26)	(8)
Days (on a year-end basis)										
Inventory days	53	55	44	41	42	43	40	40	44	41
Debtor days	12	12	12	12	21	16	17	23	20	14
Creditor days	65	68	71	67	48	86	101	94	83	55
Cash conversion cycle	(0)	(1)	(15)	(14)	15	(27)	(44)	(32)	(19)	0

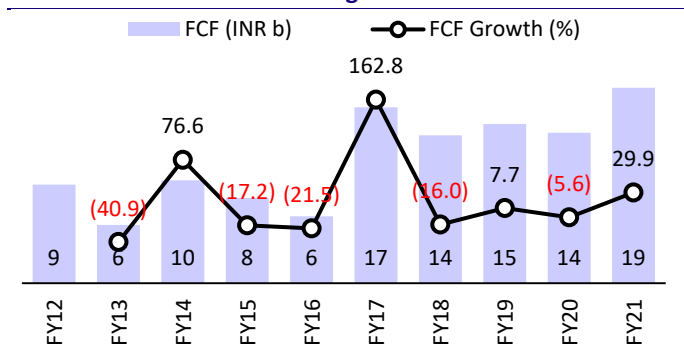
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 19: OCF has been robust in recent years, despite weak topline and earnings growth...



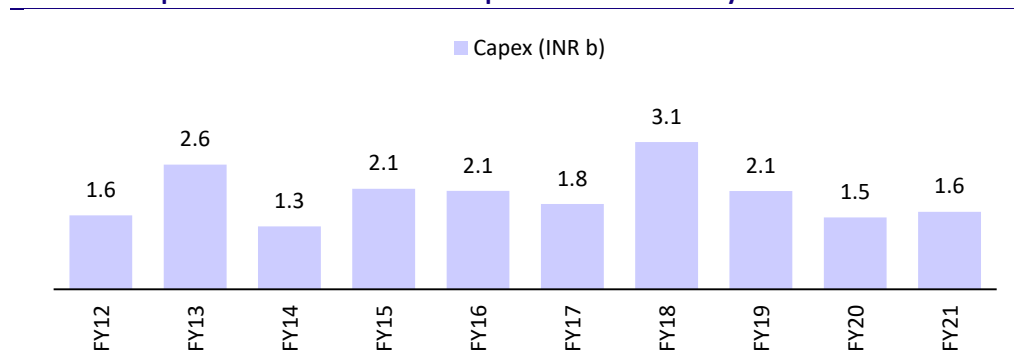
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 20: ...with FCF following a similar trend



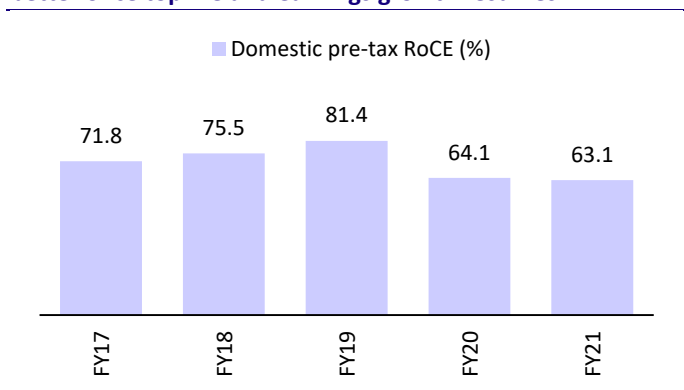
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 21: Capex has been a lot lower compared to the first five years of the last decade



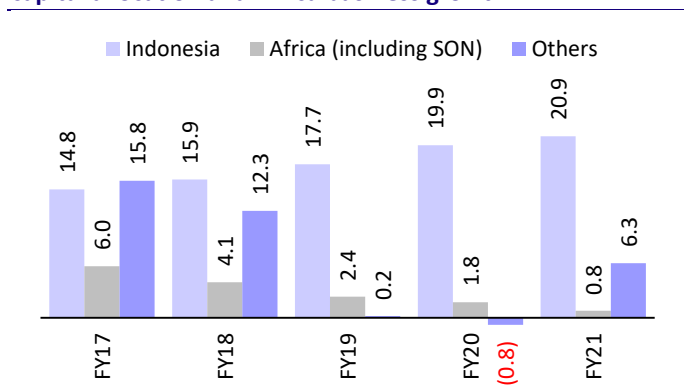
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 22: Domestic RoCE is far superior and would get better once topline and earnings growth resumes



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 23: International RoCE is improving, with better capital allocation and Africa business growth

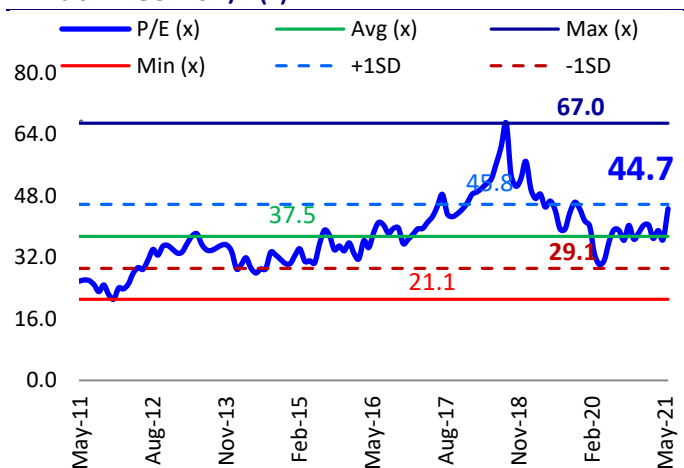


Source: Company, MOFSL

Valuation and view

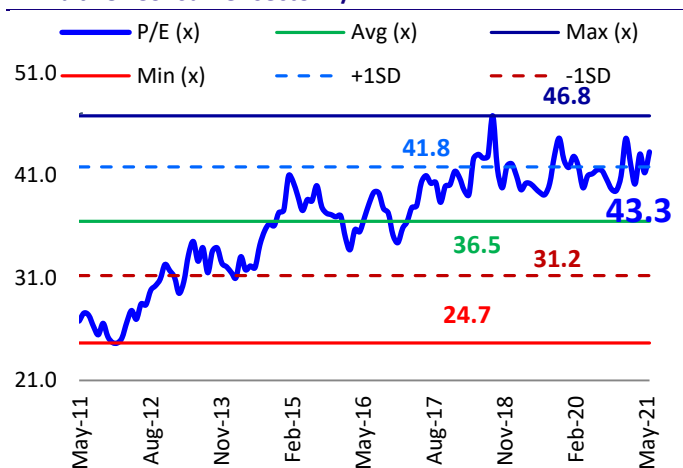
- As highlighted in our [upgrade note](#), we believe that Mr. Sudhir Sitapati’s appointment as MD and CEO for a period of five years could have a transformational change in GCPL’s fortunes.
- Many of GCPL’s domestic categories have underperformed in recent years, despite low penetration levels. As a result, domestic sales CAGR for the four years ending FY20 has only been ~3% CAGR.
- Even with a healthy growth of ~14% YoY in FY21, its five-year domestic sales CAGR hovers ~5%. Given its much superior margin and RoCE in the domestic business, this slowdown was a key factor behind weak consolidated earnings CAGR of ~8% in the past five years.
- Mr. Sitapati’s appointment fills another important piece of the puzzle that unlocks the path to strong earnings growth for GCPL, along with: a) better capital allocation efforts in recent years, b) appointment of a new head in the erstwhile significantly underperforming GAUM (largely Africa) business, with good initial results in the first year of his tenure in FY21, and c) potential tailwind in Soaps and Personal Wash products, led by more frequent usage post COVID-19 and sharp increase in penetration levels in the Hand Wash category.
- While the stock has rallied nearly 20% on the announcement of Mr. Sitapati’s appointment, we believe this spurt is just the first step of what could be potentially massive revitalization of both earnings and RoCE over the next few years, leading to a sustained re-rating as well. We have seen transformative changes on all these fronts in the past with companies like BRIT, NEST, JUBI, and HUVR. There are no changes to our modest earnings growth forecasts of ~8%/16% in FY22E/FY23E as we await the path to growth that the new CEO unveils when he joins in Oct’21. Valuing GCPL at 45x Jun’23E EPS (40x Mar’23E earlier), we arrive at our TP of INR1,020, a 19% upside to its CMP.

Exhibit 24: GCPL’s P/E (x)



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 25: Consumer sector P/E



Source: Company, MOFSL

Financials and valuations

Income Statement							(INR b)
Y/E March	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E
Net Sales	92.7	98.5	103.1	99.1	110.3	120.3	133.0
Change (%)	10.0	6.3	4.7	-3.9	11.3	9.1	10.5
Gross Profit	51.4	55.7	58.1	56.5	61.0	67.1	74.7
Margin (%)	55.4	56.6	56.3	57.0	55.3	55.7	56.2
Total Expenditure	73.7	77.8	81.5	77.7	86.4	93.9	103.1
EBITDA	19.0	20.7	21.7	21.4	23.9	26.4	29.8
Change (%)	16.0	8.9	4.9	-1.2	11.4	10.5	13.0
Margin (%)	20.5	21.0	21.0	21.6	21.7	21.9	22.4
Depreciation	1.4	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1
Int. and Fin. Charges	1.5	1.6	2.2	2.2	1.3	0.8	0.6
Interest Income	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8
Other Income-rec.	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.5
PBT	16.9	18.6	18.8	18.4	21.2	24.5	28.3
Change (%)	12.4	10.2	1.4	-2.3	15.4	15.5	15.5
Margin (%)	18.2	18.9	18.3	18.6	19.3	20.4	21.3
Tax	3.7	4.0	4.2	3.8	4.1	5.3	6.0
Deferred Tax	-0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.5	-0.2	-0.2
Tax Rate (%)	22.5	21.8	20.9	21.4	16.9	22.2	21.9
PAT	13.1	14.5	14.9	14.5	17.7	19.1	22.1
Change (%)	12.3	11.2	2.5	-2.9	22.0	8.2	15.9
Margin (%)	14.1	14.8	14.4	14.6	16.0	15.9	16.7
Minority interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Group Adjusted PAT	12.9	14.4	14.9	14.5	17.7	19.1	22.1
Non-rec. (Exp.)/Income	0.0	1.8	8.5	0.5	-0.4	0.0	0.0
Reported PAT	13.1	16.3	23.4	15.0	17.2	19.1	22.1

Balance Sheet							(INR b)
Y/E March	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E
Share Capital	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Reserves	52.0	61.6	71.6	78.0	93.4	97.8	102.7
Minority Int	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Networth	53.0	62.6	72.7	79.0	94.4	98.8	103.7
Loans	40.0	35.1	33.8	35.2	7.6	7.2	6.9
Deferred Liability	1.9	1.9	-4.7	-5.7	-6.4	-6.4	-6.4
Capital Employed	94.9	99.6	101.8	108.5	95.6	99.6	104.2
Gross Block	36.3	39.6	42.1	45.2	42.0	45.3	48.5
Less: Accum. Depn.	2.1	3.6	4.6	6.3	4.3	6.4	8.5
Net Fixed Assets	34.2	36.0	37.5	38.9	37.7	38.9	40.0
Capital WIP	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Goodwill	46.6	47.2	49.2	53.4	51.3	51.3	51.3
Non Curr Investments	2.5	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Current Investments	6.8	8.6	4.8	6.4	6.6	7.2	6.5
Currents Assets	38.3	44.7	43.8	43.5	39.6	44.6	52.3
Inventory	14.1	15.8	15.6	17.0	17.2	17.5	19.3
Account Receivables	10.3	12.5	12.9	11.6	10.0	10.9	12.0
Cash and Bank Balance	9.1	9.6	8.9	7.7	6.7	10.5	15.2
Loans and Advances	4.5	6.8	6.3	7.1	5.7	5.7	5.7
Other Current Assets	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Curr. Liab. & Prov.	34.5	39.0	34.4	34.6	40.5	43.2	46.6
Account Payables	17.2	23.5	25.4	24.8	21.6	23.4	25.9
Other Liabilities	17.2	15.3	8.7	9.3	18.3	19.2	20.2
Net Current Assets	3.8	5.6	9.4	8.9	-0.8	1.4	5.7
Net Assets	94.9	99.6	101.8	108.5	95.6	99.6	104.2

E: MOFSL Estimates

Financials and valuations

Ratios

Y/E March	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E
Basic (INR)							
EPS	12.6	14.1	14.6	14.2	17.3	18.7	21.7
Cash EPS	14.0	15.6	16.2	16.1	19.3	20.7	23.7
BV/Share	51.9	61.2	71.1	77.3	92.3	96.6	101.5
DPS	4.0	4.7	6.7	8.0	10.0	12.0	14.0
Payout (%)	31.6	33.2	45.7	56.5	57.9	64.2	64.6
Valuation (x)							
P/E	67.7	60.8	58.7	60.4	49.6	45.8	39.5
Cash P/E	61.0	54.9	52.7	53.2	44.4	41.3	36.0
EV/Sales	9.7	9.1	8.7	9.1	7.9	7.2	6.5
EV/EBITDA	47.6	43.5	41.5	42.1	36.7	33.0	29.1
P/BV	16.5	14.0	12.0	11.1	9.3	8.9	8.4
Dividend Yield	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.6
Return Ratios (%)							
RoE	24.6	24.9	22.0	19.1	20.4	19.8	21.9
RoCE (Post-tax)	16.2	16.2	16.6	15.4	18.3	20.2	22.2
RoIC	18.6	19.3	19.0	16.9	20.7	23.3	26.6
Working Capital Ratios							
Debtor (Days)	41	46	46	43	33	33	33
Asset Turnover (x)	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.9	3.0	3.3
Leverage Ratio							
Debt/Equity (x)	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1

Cash Flow Statement

(INR b)

Y/E March	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E
OP/(Loss) before Tax	18.4	20.5	20.4	20.6	23.8	26.2	30.0
Net interest	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.4	0.9	0.2	-0.2
Direct Taxes Paid	-4.3	-4.1	-4.5	-3.6	-4.0	-5.3	-6.0
(Inc)/Dec in WC	3.4	-0.2	0.0	-2.6	-0.5	1.6	0.4
CF from Operations	18.6	17.2	17.3	15.9	20.3	22.7	24.3
Inc in FA	-1.8	-3.1	-2.1	-1.5	-1.6	-3.3	-3.3
Free Cash Flow	16.8	14.1	15.2	14.4	18.7	19.4	21.0
Pur of Investments	-5.7	0.4	2.9	-2.6	-0.1	-0.6	0.7
Others	-16.0	-0.2	1.6	0.0	-1.3	0.5	0.6
CF from Investments	-23.6	-2.9	2.4	-4.2	-3.1	-3.4	-1.9
Inc in Debt	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.3	-16.2	-0.4	-0.4
Dividend Paid	-2.0	-6.1	-12.3	-8.2	0.0	-14.7	-17.2
Interest Paid	-1.2	-1.6	-2.1	-1.5	-1.6	-0.8	-0.6
Other Item	9.8	-6.1	-6.0	-2.0	-0.4	0.4	0.5
CF from Fin. Activity	6.6	-13.8	-20.4	-13.0	-18.2	-15.5	-17.7
Inc/Dec of Cash	1.7	0.5	-0.7	-1.2	-1.0	3.8	4.7
Add: Beginning Balance	7.5	9.1	9.6	8.9	7.7	6.7	10.5
Closing Balance	9.1	9.6	8.9	7.7	6.7	10.5	15.2

E: MOFSL Estimates

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

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