28 January 2022 Company Update | Sector: Telecom

# **Bharti Airtel**

**BSE SENSEX** 57,200 **S&P CNX** 17,102

**7** airtel

Motilal Oswal

Bloomberg	BHARTI IN
Equity Shares (m)	5,884
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	4075.5 / 54.3
52-Week Range (INR)	782 / 490
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	6/19/6
12M Avg Val (INR M)	9309
Free float (%)	44.1

#### Financials & Valuations (INR b)

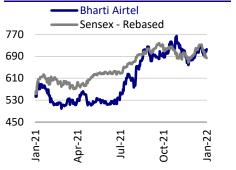
INR Billion	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E					
Net Sales	1,167	1,388	1,552					
EBITDA	577	723	830					
Adj. PAT	33	75	108					
EBITDA Margin (%)	49.5	52.1	53.5					
Adj. EPS (INR)	5.9	13.4	19.3					
EPS Gr. (%)	-553	126	44					
BV/Sh. (INR)	122	163	183					
Ratios								
Net D:E	2.0	1.0	0.6					
RoE (%)	5.2	9.4	11.2					
RoCE (%)	7.6	10.6	13.1					
Div. Payout (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0					
Valuations								
EV/EBITDA (x)	9.4	6.9	5.6					
P/E (x)	121	53	37					
P/BV (x)	5.9	4.4	3.9					
Div. Yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0					
FCF Yield (%)	3.4	8.1	9.7					

#### Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Dec-21	Sep-21	Dec-20
Promoter	55.9	55.9	56.2
DII	19.5	19.2	21.8
FII	19.4	19.9	17.8
Others	5.2	5.1	4.2

FII Includes depository receipts

#### Stock Performance (1-year)



CMP: INR716 TP: INR920 (+29%)

Buy

# Google acquires stake in Airtel

## **Deal contours**

In a strategic move, Google will invest up to USD1b in a partnership with Bharti Airtel as part of its Google for India Digitization Fund. The deal includes an investment of USD700m (INR52.24b) to acquire 71.2m shares at INR734/share, implying 1.3% stake in Bharti Airtel on a diluted basis. Additionally, it will invest up to USD300m toward commercial agreements over the next five years.

## **Strategic focus**

The partnership will focus on: a) enabling affordable access to smartphones across price ranges to Airtel customers, b) co-create India-specific use cases for 5G, and c) accelerate the Cloud ecosystem for enterprises, particularly SMEs, across India.

# For Google, this could be more than an enabling investment

Airtel is already using Google's 5G-ready Evolved Packet Core and Software Defined Network platforms. It now plans to explore scaling up deployment of Google's network virtualization solutions to deliver a better network experience. So, this deal may be more than an enabling investment to build commercials for Google in India which may not require investment of INR52.2b. Certainly Google sees the advantage of tying up with a large Telecom provider to create front-end solutions.

## How could Bharti benefit?

Bharti could leverage Google's tech platform to explore monetization of its digital offering. It could: a) leverage the opportunity of a large pool (over 300m) of feature phone subscribers in the market through Google enabled affordable devices, and b) leverage Google's 5G technology solutions to offer use cases to SMEs/consumers, including Cloud services. Over time it can derive a big value through new growth areas.

## Highlights from the management interaction

- The device partnership will enable it to offer: a) handset lending, b) attractive pricing through cash back and other incentives, c) e-commerce partnership led benefits, and d) data analytics, which helps in tracking potential smartphone customer upgrades.
- There are no plans to offer subsidies at present and there is no device exclusivity in the deal.
- Airtel's contribution against Google's USD300m investment will be part of its USD2.5b capex spends.

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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, Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, Factset and S&P Capital.

# Valuation and view

The stock is trading at 5.6x consolidated EV/EBITDA on a FY24E basis, while the implied India business is trading at 8.5x. We value Bharti's India/Africa Mobile business at a FY24E EV/EBITDA of 10x/4x, arriving at our SoTP-based TP of INR920. We expect a 20% EBITDA CAGR for Bharti over FY22-24E. We see a potential rerating upside in both the India and Africa businesses on the back of steady earnings growth in each region from a tariff hike, ARPU mix improvement, and market share gains. We see an additional EBITDA potential of INR100b if VIL is unable to infuse large-scale capital and improve its ARPU/revenue to sustainable levels. Strong earnings growth could drive healthy FCF of INR425.7b/INR488.1b in FY23E/FY24E as it may outpace the capex requirement.

#### Exhibit 1: Bharti's FY24E-based SoTP

	EBITDA (INR b)	Ownership	Proportionate EBITDA (INR b)	EV/EBITDA	Fair value (INR b)	Value/share
India standalone business (excl. towers)	609	100%	609	10	6,365	1,082
Tower business (at a 15% discount to its fair value)		41.7%			234	40
Africa business	221	55.2%	122	4	434	74
Less: Net debt					1,618	275
Total value					5,415	920
Shares o/s (b)	5.9					
СМР						716
Upside (%)						29

Source: MOFSL

#### **Exhibit 2: Equity dilution**

Preferential issue	
Amount (USD m)	700
Amount (INR b)	52
Issue price	734
No. of shares (m)	71.2
Existing shares	5,492
Total shares post issue	5,563
Equity dilution	1.3%
Further infusion (USD m)	300

Source: MOSL, Company

# Highlights from the management interaction Key takeaways

- The device partnership will enable it to offer: a) handset lending, b) attractive pricing through cash back and other incentives, c) e-commerce partnership led benefits, and d) data analytics, which helps in tracking potential smartphone customer upgrades.
- There are no plans to offer subsidies at present and there is no device exclusivity in the deal.
- Airtel's contribution against Google's USD300m investment will be part of its USD2.5b capex spends.

# **Concall notes**

- The deal's focus is on three areas devices, network improvement, and Cloud ecosystem enablement.
- The device partnership will enable it to offer: a) handset lending, b) attractive pricing through cash back and other incentives, c) e-commerce partnership led benefits, and d) data analytics, which helps in tracking potential smartphone customer upgrades.
- There are no plans to offer subsidies at present and there is no device exclusivity in the deal.
- Airtel has 1m SME customers. It aims to serve these customers via this partnership and grow the number of customers.
- Airtel's contribution against Google's USD300m investment will be part of its USD2.5b capex spends.
- It will not be directly competing with Google in Cloud services. Airtel caters to hyper Cloud players, apart from the SMEs.
- Airtel invests in digital startups, with distinct technology, where it believes that the technology will improve its process and provide added advantage in customer offerings.

# **Key charts**

## Exhibit 1: Bharti to clock 15% revenue CAGR over FY22-24E

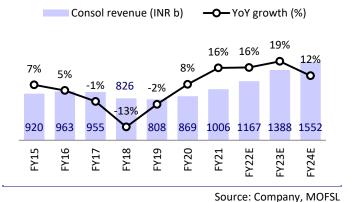
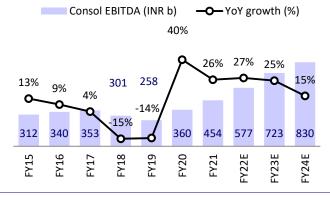
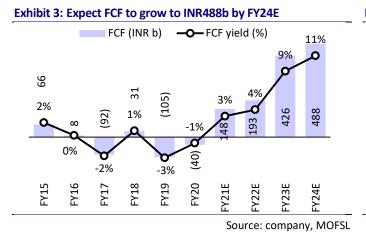


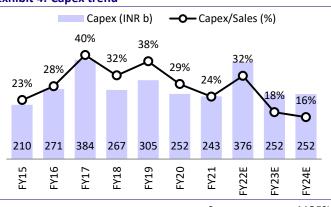
Exhibit 2: Expect EBITDA to grow at 20% over FY22-24E



Source: Company, MOFSL



**Exhibit 4: Capex trend** 



Source: company, MOFSL

# **Financials and valuations**

Y/E March	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	FY248
Total Income from Operations	965	955	826	808	869	1,006	1,167	1,388	1,552
Change (%)		-1.1	-13.4	-2.2	7.6	15.7	15.9	19.0	11.8
Total Expenditure	625	601	526	550	509	552	589	665	722
As a percentage of Sales	64.8	63.0	63.6	68.1	58.6	54.9	50.5	47.9	46.5
EBITDA	340	353	301	258	360	454	577	723	830
Margin (%)	35.2	37.0	36.4	31.9	41.4	45.1	49.5	52.1	53.5
Depreciation	174	198	192	213	276	294	334	365	390
EBIT	165	156	108	44	85	<b>160</b>	243	358	440
Int. and Finance Charges	69	77	81	96	135	151	166	150	137
Other Income	11	10	13	5	16	6	35	36	43
PBT bef. EO Exp.	107	89	41	-47	-34	14	112	244	346
EO Items	22	-12	-8	29	-402	-159	8	0	C
PBT after EO Exp.	128	77	33	-17	-437	-145	120	244	346
Total Tax	60	35	11	-34	-123	89	47	100	138
Tax Rate (%)	46.3	45.1	33.2	197.4	28.2	-61.7	39.5	40.9	40.0
Profit from discontinued operations	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	110.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Minority Interest	8	4	11	13	15	27	35	69	99
Reported PAT	61	38	11	4	-322	-151	38	75	108
Adjusted PAT	49	44	14	-35	-41	-7	33	75	108
Change (%)		-9.5	-68.6	-350.3	16.6	-82.3	-561.2	125.9	44.2
Margin (%)	5.1	4.7	1.7	-4.3	-4.7	-0.7	2.8	5.4	7.0

Consolidated Balance Sheet									(INR b)
Y/E March	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Equity Share Capital	20	20	20	20	27	27	28	29	29
Total Reserves	648	655	675	694	744	562	652	883	991
Net Worth	668	675	695	714	771	590	<b>680</b>	912	1,020
Minority Interest	55	69	88	135	250	223	257	326	426
Total Loans	1,005	1,073	1,113	1,254	1,176	1,628	1,508	1,285	1,186
Lease liabilities	0	0	0	0	306	0	0	0	0
Deferred Tax Liabilities	-34	-17	-22	-83	-263	-222	-222	-222	-222
Capital Employed	1,693	1,799	1,875	2,021	2,241	2,218	2,223	2,302	2,410
Net Fixed Assets	1,780	1,891	1,589	1,684	1,690	2,292	2,334	2,220	2,081
Goodwill on Consolidation	0	0	328	333	346	0	0	0	0
Capital WIP	0	0	52	88	40	0	0	0	0
Right of use assets	0	0	0	0	259	0	0	0	0
Total Investments	120	182	180	176	278	329	289	289	289
Curr. Assets, Loans, and Adv.	311	234	327	382	724	617	649	889	1,177
Inventory	2	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	2
Account Receivables	55	47	59	43	46	36	40	43	50
Cash and Bank Balance	37	13	48	62	136	81	81	291	543
Loans and Advances	217	173	219	276	541	500	526	555	581
Curr. Liability and Prov.	518	507	<b>602</b>	641	1,097	1,020	1,048	1,096	1,136
Account Payables	508	497	577	621	621	1,020	1,048	1,096	1,136
Provisions	10	10	25	20	476	0	0	0	0
Net Current Assets	-207	-273	-275	-259	-373	-403	-399	-207	40
Appl. of Funds	1,693	1,799	1,875	2,021	2,241	2,218	2,223	2,302	2,410

E: MOSL estimates

# **Financials and valuations**

FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
12.3	11.1	3.5	-8.7	-7.5	-1.3	5.9	13.4	19.3
55.9	60.6	51.6	44.7	43.1	52.2	65.7	78.8	89.2
168.8	168.8	173.9	178.7	141.4	107.3	121.6	163.2	182.5
1.4	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
10.8	12.7	43.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
58.3	64.4	205.0	-81.9	-95.9	-546.3	120.6	53.4	37.0
12.8	11.8	13.9	16.0	16.6	13.7	10.9	9.1	8.0
4.2	4.2	4.1	4.0	5.1	6.7	5.9	4.4	3.9
4.0	4.1	4.8	5.0	6.0	5.4	4.7	3.6	3.0
11.3	11.1	13.1	15.7	14.6	12.1	9.4	6.9	5.6
0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.1	-22.9	7.8	-26.2	-7.3	26.9	34.5	76.1	87.3
7.6	6.6	2.0	-5.0	-5.5	-1.1	5.2	9.4	11.2
6.1	5.3	4.6	-2.5	3.7	12.8	7.6	10.6	13.1
6.4	5.4	4.5		3.5	14.4	8.0	11.8	16.0
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7
0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
21	18	26	19	19	13	13	11	12
	190	255	281	261	370	328	288	267
0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.0
2.4	2.0	1.3	0.5	0.6	1.1	1.5	2.4	3.2
1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	2.5	2.0	1.0	0.6
								(INR b)
FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
128	77	33	-17	-428	-31	120	244	346
174	198	192	213	277	297	334	365	390
85	95	93	110	137	149	166	150	137
-47	-32	-14	-12	-23	-22	-47	-100	-138
-4	-27	6	-55	-166	30	-4	18	5
338	311	311	239	-203	423	568	677	740
-58	-19	-12	-39	384	59	0	0	0
279	292	299	201	181	482	568	677	740
-271	-384	-267	-305	-221	-334	-376	-252	-252
8	-92	31	-105	-40	148	193	426	488
		-33	1	-88	38	41	0	0
68	-1	-55	-		50		0	
	-1	40	19	5	27	0	0	0
61	69	40		5		0		0
			19 <b>-285</b>	5 <b>-305</b>	27		0 - <b>252</b>	0 - <b>252</b>
61 <b>-142</b>	69 <b>-316</b>	40 <b>-260</b>	19	5	27 <b>-269</b>	0 - <b>335</b>	0	0
	12.3 55.9 168.8 1.4 10.8 58.3 12.8 4.2 4.0 11.3 0.2 2.1 7.6 6.1 6.1 6.4 0.5 0.6 1 21 192 0.6 2.4 1.3 <b>FY16</b> 128 174 85 -47 -4 <b>338</b> -58 <b>279</b> -271 <b>8</b>	12.3       11.1         55.9       60.6         168.8       168.8         1.4       1.0         10.8       12.7         58.3       64.4         12.8       11.8         4.2       4.2         4.0       4.1         11.3       11.1         0.2       0.1         2.1       -22.9         7.6       6.6         6.1       5.3         6.4       5.4         0.5       0.5         0.6       0.5         1       0         21       18         192       190         0.6       0.5         2.4       2.0         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.3       1.3         1.4       -27         338       311         -58	12.3         11.1         3.5           55.9         60.6         51.6           168.8         168.8         173.9           1.4         1.0         1.0           10.8         12.7         43.8           58.3         64.4         205.0           12.8         11.8         13.9           4.2         4.2         4.1           4.0         4.1         4.8           11.3         11.1         13.1           0.2         0.1         0.1           2.1         -22.9         7.8           7.6         6.6         2.0           6.1         5.3         4.6           6.4         5.4         4.5           0.5         0.5         0.5           0.6         0.5         0.4           1         0         0           21         18         26           192         190         255           0.6         0.5         0.5           2.4         2.0         1.3           1.3         1.3         1.3           1.3         1.3         1.3           1.3         1.3	12.3         11.1         3.5         -8.7 $55.9$ $60.6$ $51.6$ $44.7$ $168.8$ $168.8$ $173.9$ $178.7$ $1.4$ $1.0$ $1.0$ $0.0$ $10.8$ $12.7$ $43.8$ $0.0$ $10.8$ $12.7$ $43.8$ $0.0$ $4.2$ $4.2$ $4.1$ $4.0$ $4.2$ $4.2$ $4.1$ $4.8$ $50.1$ $0.1$ $0.0$ $4.2$ $4.2$ $4.1$ $4.0$ $4.0$ $4.1$ $4.8$ $5.0$ $11.3$ $11.1$ $13.1$ $15.7$ $0.2$ $0.1$ $0.1$ $0.0$ $2.1$ $-22.9$ $7.8$ $-26.2$ $7.6$ $6.6$ $2.0$ $-5.0$ $6.4$ $5.4$ $4.5$ $-2.6$ $7.6$ $6.5$ $0.5$ $0.5$ $0.6$ $0.5$ $0.5$ $0.5$ $0.6$	12.3         11.1         3.5         -8.7         -7.5           55.9         60.6         51.6         44.7         43.1           168.8         168.8         173.9         178.7         141.4           1.4         1.0         1.0         0.0         0.0           10.8         12.7         43.8         0.0         0.0           11.8         13.9         16.0         16.6           4.2         4.2         4.1         4.0         5.1           4.0         4.1         4.8         5.0         6.0           11.3         11.1         13.1         15.7         14.6           0.2         0.1         0.1         0.0         0.0           2.1         -22.9         7.8         -26.2         -7.3           7.6         6.6         2.0         -5.0         -5.5           6.1         5.3         4.6         -2.5         3.7           6.4         5.4         4.5         -2.6         3.5           0.6         0.5         0.5         0.5         0.5           0.6         0.5         0.5         0.5         0.6           1.3 <td< td=""><td>12.3         11.1         3.5         -8.7         -7.5         -1.3           55.9         60.6         51.6         44.7         43.1         52.2           168.8         168.8         173.9         178.7         141.4         107.3           1.4         1.0         1.0         0.0         0.0         0.0           10.8         12.7         43.8         0.0         0.0         0.0           10.8         12.7         43.8         0.0         0.0         0.0           10.8         12.7         43.8         0.0         0.0         0.0           11.3         11.8         13.9         16.0         16.6         13.7           4.2         4.2         4.1         4.0         5.1         6.7           4.0         4.1         4.8         5.0         6.0         5.4           11.3         11.1         13.1         15.7         14.6         12.1           0.2         0.1         0.1         0.0         0.0         0.0           2.1         -22.9         7.8         -26.2         -7.3         26.9           7.6         6.6         2.0         -5.0         -5.</td><td>12.3       11.1       3.5       -8.7       -7.5       -1.3       5.9         55.9       60.6       51.6       44.7       43.1       52.2       65.7         168.8       168.8       173.9       178.7       141.4       107.3       121.6         1.4       1.0       1.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         10.8       12.7       43.8       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         58.3       64.4       205.0       -81.9       -95.9       -546.3       120.6         12.8       11.8       13.9       16.0       16.6       13.7       10.9         4.2       4.2       4.1       4.0       5.1       6.7       5.9         4.0       4.1       4.8       5.0       6.0       5.4       4.7         11.3       11.1       13.1       15.7       14.6       12.1       9.4         0.2       0.1       0.1       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         2.1       -22.9       7.8       -26.2       -7.3       26.9       34.5         7.6       6.6       2.0       -5.0       -5.5       -1.1       5.2</td><td>12.3       11.1       3.5       -8.7       -7.5       -1.3       5.9       13.4         55.9       60.6       51.6       44.7       43.1       52.2       65.7       78.8         168.8       168.8       173.9       178.7       141.4       107.3       121.6       163.2         1.4       1.0       1.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         10.8       12.7       43.8       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         58.3       64.4       205.0       -81.9       -95.9       -546.3       120.6       53.4         12.8       11.8       13.9       16.0       16.6       13.7       10.9       9.1         4.2       4.2       4.1       4.0       5.1       6.7       5.9       4.4         4.0       4.1       4.8       5.0       6.0       5.4       4.7       3.6         11.3       11.1       13.1       15.7       14.6       12.1       9.4       6.9         0.2       0.1       0.1       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         2.1       -22.9       7.8</td></td<>	12.3         11.1         3.5         -8.7         -7.5         -1.3           55.9         60.6         51.6         44.7         43.1         52.2           168.8         168.8         173.9         178.7         141.4         107.3           1.4         1.0         1.0         0.0         0.0         0.0           10.8         12.7         43.8         0.0         0.0         0.0           10.8         12.7         43.8         0.0         0.0         0.0           10.8         12.7         43.8         0.0         0.0         0.0           11.3         11.8         13.9         16.0         16.6         13.7           4.2         4.2         4.1         4.0         5.1         6.7           4.0         4.1         4.8         5.0         6.0         5.4           11.3         11.1         13.1         15.7         14.6         12.1           0.2         0.1         0.1         0.0         0.0         0.0           2.1         -22.9         7.8         -26.2         -7.3         26.9           7.6         6.6         2.0         -5.0         -5.	12.3       11.1       3.5       -8.7       -7.5       -1.3       5.9         55.9       60.6       51.6       44.7       43.1       52.2       65.7         168.8       168.8       173.9       178.7       141.4       107.3       121.6         1.4       1.0       1.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         10.8       12.7       43.8       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         58.3       64.4       205.0       -81.9       -95.9       -546.3       120.6         12.8       11.8       13.9       16.0       16.6       13.7       10.9         4.2       4.2       4.1       4.0       5.1       6.7       5.9         4.0       4.1       4.8       5.0       6.0       5.4       4.7         11.3       11.1       13.1       15.7       14.6       12.1       9.4         0.2       0.1       0.1       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         2.1       -22.9       7.8       -26.2       -7.3       26.9       34.5         7.6       6.6       2.0       -5.0       -5.5       -1.1       5.2	12.3       11.1       3.5       -8.7       -7.5       -1.3       5.9       13.4         55.9       60.6       51.6       44.7       43.1       52.2       65.7       78.8         168.8       168.8       173.9       178.7       141.4       107.3       121.6       163.2         1.4       1.0       1.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         10.8       12.7       43.8       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         58.3       64.4       205.0       -81.9       -95.9       -546.3       120.6       53.4         12.8       11.8       13.9       16.0       16.6       13.7       10.9       9.1         4.2       4.2       4.1       4.0       5.1       6.7       5.9       4.4         4.0       4.1       4.8       5.0       6.0       5.4       4.7       3.6         11.3       11.1       13.1       15.7       14.6       12.1       9.4       6.9         0.2       0.1       0.1       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0       0.0         2.1       -22.9       7.8

-15

47

19

-1

18

-19

37

-118

-9

53

-4

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18

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56

19

58

-10

41

-7

48

-47

13

95

10

41

54

-8

62

-18

37

68

54

-5

131

136

191

-27

-40

-249

-36

131

91

10

81

0

0

0

91

91

10

81

-234

0

1

-215

211

301

291

10

91

Dividend Paid

**CF from Fin. Activity** 

Less: Bank overdraft

Net Closing Balance

E: MOFSL estimates

Inc./Dec. in Cash

**Opening Balance** 

**Closing Balance** 

Others

0

0

-236

252

301

553

10

543

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

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