

Laurus Labs

Estimate change TP change Rating change

Bloomberg	LAURUS IN
Equity Shares (m)	532
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	268.4 / 3.6
52-Week Range (INR)	724 / 333
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	-4/-28/18
12M Avg Val (INR M)	1835

Financials & valuations (INR b)

Y/E MARCH	2022E	2023E	2024E
Sales	48.4	58.7	70.9
EBITDA	14.6	18.9	23.4
Adj. PAT	8.7	11.7	14.9
EBIT Margin (%)	25.0	26.9	27.8
Cons. Adj. EPS (INR)	16.2	21.8	27.8
EPS Gr. (%)	-11.6	34.5	27.6
BV/Sh. (INR)	62.2	80.7	104.4
Ratios			
Net D:E	0.4	0.3	0.1
RoE (%)	29.3	30.5	30.0
RoCE (%)	21.7	24.3	25.8
Payout (%)	15.1	15.1	15.1
Valuations			
P/E (x)	30.8	22.9	18.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	19.2	14.8	11.7
Div. Yield (%)	0.4	0.5	0.7
FCF Yield (%)	1.1	1.3	2.8
EV/Sales (x)	5.8	4.8	3.9

Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Dec-21	Sep-21	Dec-20
Promoter	27.3	27.3	28.8
DII	6.9	4.8	4.1
FII	22.1	22.8	19.9
Others	43.8	45.1	47.2

FII includes depository receipts

CMP: INR500 TP: INR580 (+16%) Buy

3QFY22 miss; channel de-stocking impacts earnings

ARV outlook intact; Synthesis business in scale up mode

- LAURUS delivered a lower than expected 3QFY22, dragged by the adverse impact of inventory rationalization in the Anti-retroviral (ARV) segment. This was offset to some extent by improving performance in Synthesis and the other API segment. Its prospects remain strong in Synthesis/other API segment, led by higher orders from existing customers as well as new customer additions.
- We lower our FY22E/FY23E/FY24E EPS estimate by 15.4%/12.4%%/11.8% to factor in: a) lesser demand on account of lower stocking by channel partners affecting both the API and Formulation businesses in the ARV segment, b) steadily increasing opex due to new capex, and c) lower operating leverage.
- We continue to value LAURUS at 24x 12-month forward earnings to arrive at our TP of INR580. We believe the inventory-related disruption in ARV is largely complete, leading to better volume led offtake going forward. LAURUS is progressing well on building Synthesis as an additional growth lever through its chemistry skill set and is subsequently building manufacturing capacity. We maintain our Buy rating.

Superior product mix benefit more than offset by lower operating leverage

- Revenue fell 20% YoY to INR10.3b (est. INR12b) in 3QFY22. Growth was dragged lower by a 42% YoY decline in API revenue (41% of sales). The ARV-API segment declined by 49% YoY to INR2b, Onco-API grew 33% to INR848m, and other API rose 37% YoY to INR1.4b.
- Formulation (FDF) sales fell 13% YoY (36% of sales) to INR3.7b. The Synthesis business grew 63% YoY to INR2b, offsetting some impact of the decline in API/FDF sales.
- Gross margin expanded by 400bp YoY to 59% due to a change in the product mix.
- However, EBITDA margin contracted by 540bp YoY to 27.7% (est. 29.7%) due to higher employee costs/other expenses (+400bp/540bp as a percentage of sales).
- EBITDA declined by 33% YoY to INR2.9b (est. INR3.6b).
- PAT declined by 43% YoY to INR1.5b (est. INR2b).
- Revenue grew 3% YoY to INR35b, while EBITDA/PAT declined by 5%/13% to INR10.2b/INR6b in 9MFY22.

Highlights from the management commentary

- The management is confident of achieving its USD1b sales target by FY23.
- It guided at 30% EBITDA margin in FY22 (achieved 29.2% in 9MFY22).
- By FY25, the CDMO/CS business is expected to contribute 25% to total revenue from the current contribution of 20%. This implies a sharp uptick in this business. The management expects this to be driven by a couple of products advancing in clinical trials, ramp-up of projects dedicated to a global life science company, new customer additions, and incremental business from new customers.

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Inventory rationalization impacted its 3QFY22 sales run-rate in the ARV-API segment. However, the management expects business to normalize over the near to medium term, driving INR15-16b sales on an annual basis.

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■ At present, 25% of the gross block is not contributing to revenue.

Valuation and view

- We lower our FY22E/FY23E/FY24E EPS estimate by 15.4%/12.4%%/11.8% to factor in: a) de-stocking led pressure in the ARV business, b) increased cost pressure due to disruption in China, and c) lower operating leverage.
- We expect 31% earnings CAGR over FY22-24E, led by a 30%/27%/11% sales CAGR in the Synthesis/FDF/API segment and ~280bp margin expansion. We value LAURUS at 24x 12-month forward earnings to arrive at our TP of INR580.
- We remain positive on LAURUS on the back of: a) its Synthesis CDMO segment outlook and a strong client base, b) its potential in the Biologics CDMO segment, with capacity addition, c) product development/capacity addition in the Non-ARV segment, and d) healthy order book in the Non-ARV API business. We reiterate our Buy rating.

Consolidated quarterly earnings model (INR m) Y/E March **FY21** FY22 FY21 FY22E FY22E Var. **2Q** 4QE 1Q **3Q** 40 **1Q 2Q** 30 3QE (%) **Net Sales** 9,743 11,388 12,884 14,119 12,785 12.035 10,288 13,292 48.135 48.400 12.070 -14.8YoY Change (%) 77.0 59.9 76.6 68.3 31.2 5.7 -20.2-5.970.0 0.5 -6.3**Total Expenditure** 6,960 7,650 8,621 9,397 8,832 8,584 7,435 8,933 32,628 33,783 8,485 **EBITDA** 2,783 3,739 4,263 4,722 3,954 3,451 2,853 4,359 15,507 14.617 3.585 -20.4 YoY Change (%) 220.8 171.3 187.7 146.2 42.0 -7.7 -33.1-7.7 174.7 -5.7-15.9Margin (%) 28.6 32.8 33.1 33.4 30.9 28.7 27.7 32.8 32.2 30.2 29.7 Depreciation 488 510 516 536 585 632 640 676 2,051 2,533 650 **EBIT** 2,295 13,456 3.229 3.747 4.186 3.368 2,819 2,213 3,684 12.084 2,935 -24.6 YoY Change (%) 460.8 258.9 272.3 187.2 -12.7 -40.9 46.7 -12.0256.7 -10.2-21.7 Margin (%) 23.6 28.4 29.1 29.6 26.3 23.4 21.5 27.7 28.0 25.0 24.3 Interest 151 137 174 219 266 221 231 246 682 964 225 Other Income 71 51 69 45 59 28 53 29 237 169 50 **PBT before EO expense** 2,215 3,143 3,642 4,012 3,161 2,626 2,035 3,468 13,011 11,289 2,760 -26.3 **PBT** 2,215 3,143 3,642 4,012 3,161 2,626 2,035 3,468 13,011 11,289 2,760 -26.3 Tax 497 720 913 1.043 744 586 485 780 3,173 2,596 621 Rate (%) 22.4 23.6 22.3 23.8 22.9 25.1 26.0 22.5 24.4 23.0 22.5 Reported PAT 2,423 2,729 2,969 2,416 2,040 2,687 9,838 8,693 -27.6 1,718 1,550 2,139 Adj. PAT 1,718 2,423 2,729 2,969 2,416 2,040 1,550 2,687 9,838 8,693 2,139 -27.6 YoY Change (%) 1,038.0 328.4 271.4 169.6 40.7 -15.8 -43.2 -9.5 285.4 -11.6 -21.6 Margin (%) 17.6 21.3 21.2 21.0 18.9 16.9 15.1 20.2 20.4 18.0 17.7

Key performance indicators (Consolidated)			
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Y/E March	FY21			FY22				FY21	FY22E	FY22E	
INR m	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4QE			3QE
API	5,220	5,710	7,310	8,053	5,490	5,270	4,240	5,988	26,210	20,988	5,000
YoY Change (%)	40.3	22.4	104.0	90.0	5.2	(7.7)	(42.0)	(25.6)	62.9	(19.9)	(31.6)
Custom Synthesis	1,000	1,160	1,270	1,760	1,950	1,550	2,070	2,587	5,285	8,157	1,800
YoY Change (%)	37.0	36.5	62.8	18.9	95.0	33.6	63.0	47.0	66.7	55.0	41.7
Formulation	3,520	4,520	4,300	4,300	5,210	4,950	3,730	4,414	16,640	18,304	5,000
YoY Change (%)	232.1	182.7	47.2	60.9	48.0	9.5	(13.3)	2.7	101.6	10.0	16.3
Cost Break-up											
RM Cost (as a percentage of sales)	45.8	44.0	45.3	44.5	43.3	44.3	41.2	44.0	44.8	43.3	44.5
Staff Cost (as a percentage of sales)	11.5	9.5	7.8	8.1	10.0	10.2	11.9	9.1	9.0	10.2	9.6
R&D Expenses (as a percentage of sales)	4.3	3.8	3.1	5.5	3.8	3.5	5.5	5.5	3.5	3.5	5.5
Other Cost (as a percentage of sales)	14.2	13.7	13.8	14.0	15.8	16.9	19.2	14.0	13.9	16.3	16.2
Gross Margin (%)	54.2	56.0	54.7	55.5	56.7	55.7	58.8	56.0	55.2	56.7	55.5
EBITDA Margin (%)	28.6	32.8	33.1	33.4	30.9	28.7	27.7	32.8	32.2	30.2	29.7
EBIT Margin (%)	23.6	28.4	29.1	29.6	26.3	23.4	21.5	27.7	28.0	25.0	24.3

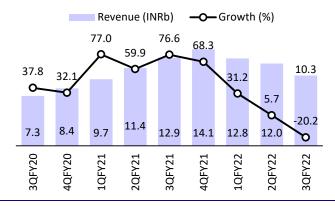


Other highlights from the management interaction

- LAURUS commissioned the remaining two Fermenters of 45KL each, taking its total operational capacity to 180KL as of Dec'21. Subsequent benefits of the full operational capacity will reflect from 4QFY22 onwards. This capacity will be used to supply to developed markets.
- Growth in other APIs was led by contract manufacturing by its European clients.
- The regime change from TDF to TAF is not happening as per its expectations in the ARV space.
- The margin pecking order is custom synthesis, FDF, other APIs, and ARV-APIs.
- Diabetes and Cardiovascular are areas where the new APIs and FDF approvals will come through for Europe and North America geographies.
- Current debt stands at INR17.5b and is expected to move up till Mar'22.
 However, its debt is expected to reduce from FY23 onwards as the recently incurred capex starts accruing commercial benefits.
- LAURUS incurred a capex of INR7.7b in 9MFY22. It is on track to undertake a capex of INR15b/INR17b over FY22/FY23.

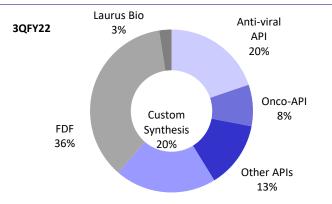
Key exhibits

Exhibit 1: ARV-API/FDF drag revenue down by 20% YoY



Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 2: Share of API sales stood at 41%



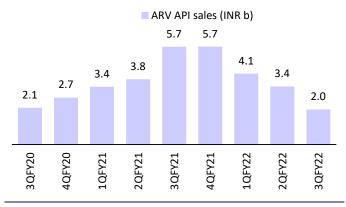
Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 3: API sales decline by 20% YoY in 3QFY22

3.6 4.2 5.2 5.7 5.7 5.5 5.3 4.2 4.2 30E 4.2 7.3 8.1 7.

Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 4: ARV-API sales decline by 64% YoY in 3QFY22

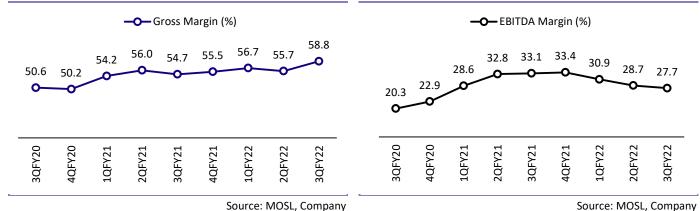


Source: MOFSL, Company

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Exhibit 5: Gross margin expands by ~410bp YoY in 3QFY22

Exhibit 6: EBITDA margin contracts by 540bp YoY in 3QFY22



ARV segment bottomed out, on track to build Non-ARV levers

FDF - Building a Non-ARV pipeline for developed markets

- FDF revenue grew 13% YoY to INR13.9b in 9MFY22, but fell 13% in 3QFY22.
- LAURUS is investing in a brownfield/greenfield expansion program to double FDF capacity. This would cater to the requirements of both the Non-ARV as well as ARV segment. It has completed the debottlenecking exercise and the plant will be commercialized by 4QFY22, supporting growth in the near-term.
- It is building an ANDA product pipeline in therapeutic areas such as Cardiac/Diabetes and the Non-ARV segment (30 filed). It has 65 products under development for the US/EU, with an addressable market size of over USD39b. It plans to launch five/two products in the US/Europe in FY23.
- In addition to immediate-release Oral Solid products, it will launch modified release products in soon. In addition, it has started working on other complex dosage forms and delivery systems (injectables/steriles) and is building its development capabilities currently.
- We expect 27% sales CAGR over FY22-24E in FDF to INR30b by FY24E.

API – Sales to pick up from FY23

- The API business posted an 18% YoY decline to INR15b in 9MFY22 due to deterioration in its ARV-API performance. However, the revenue growth rate in Onco-API and other API remained in good stead in 9MFY22.
- LAURUS is building a portfolio of non-ARV APIs and has now filed 71 DMFs in the US till date. Notably, Onco API is expected to grow YoY in FY22, supporting API segment growth in FY22.
- We expect the API sales to pick up post the expected decline in FY22 and deliver 11% sales CAGR over FY22-24E on a low base of FY22, with a ramp up in Non-ARV API sales beginning from FY23E.

To drive exponential growth in the Synthesis segment

- LAURUS clocked sales of INR5.6b, up 62% YoY, in the Synthesis (CDMO) segment in 9MFY22. The strong growth was led by sustained new client additions and increased business from existing customers. The management is working with global innovators across clinical development and commercial supplies.
- It is undertaking greenfield investment to set up a dedicated R&D center in Hyderabad, which will be completed in FY23, and three manufacturing units in Visakhapatnam, which go on stream by FY24/FY25.

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The company is expected to leverage its process chemistry skills to strengthen its presence in the Nutraceuticals and Cosmeceuticals areas as well. Overall, we expect 30% sales CAGR in the CDMO segment over FY22-24E.

LAURUS BIO - niche business with a high potential

- LAURUS recorded a revenue of INR650m in the BIO segment in 9MFY22. It recently commissioned two Fermenters of 45KL each, taking its total operational capacity to 180KL as of Dec'21. Subsequent benefits of the full operational capacity will reflect from 4QFY22 onwards.
- LAURUS BIO already has strong relationships with clients in developed markets for the rapidly expanding food protein products. LAURUS can leverage the use of its existing custom synthesis relationships to grow this segment. LAURUS BIO remains a key driver for the company from FY24/FY25.

Expect 31% EPS CAGR over FY22-24E

- We lower our FY22E/FY23E/FY24E EPS estimate by 15.4%/12.4%%/11.8% to factor in: a) de-stocking led pressure in the ARV business, b) increased cost pressure due to disruption in China, and c) lower operating leverage.
- We expect 31% earnings CAGR over FY22-24E, led by a 30%/27%/11% sales CAGR in the Synthesis/FDF/API segment and ~280bp margin expansion. We value LAURUS at 24x 12-month forward earnings to arrive at our TP of INR580.
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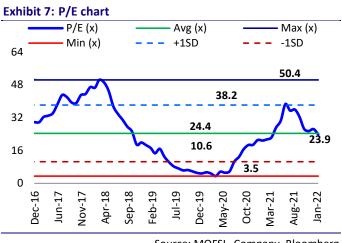


Exhibit 8: EV/EBITDA chart EV/EBITDA (x) Avg (x) Max (x) Min (x) +1SD -1SD 30.0 24.0 20.0 17.9 12.5 10.0 7.0 3.1 0.0 Jan-22 Sep-18 Dec-20 Jul-17 Jun-21 Mar-19 May-20

Source: MOFSL, Company, Bloomberg Source: MOFSL, Company, Bloomberg

Financials and valuations

Consolidated Income Statement								(INR m)
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Total Income from Operations	19,046	20,690	22,919	28,317	48,135	48,400	58,745	70,941
Change (%)	7.1	8.6	10.8	23.6	70.0	0.5	21.4	20.8
Total Expenditure	14,970	16,557	19,155	22,672	32,628	33,783	39,829	47,531
As a percentage of Sales	78.6	80.0	83.6	80.1	67.8	69.8	67.8	67.0
EBITDA	4,076	4,133	3,764	5,645	15,507	14,617	18,916	23,411
Margin (%)	21.4	20.0	16.4	19.9	32.2	30.2	32.2	33.0
Depreciation	1,060	1,255	1,642	1,873	2,051	2,533	3,093	3,671
EBIT	3,016	2,879	2,122	3,773	13,456	12,084	15,823	19,739
Int. and Finance Charges	999	796	882	896	682	964	969	896
Other Income	334	292	162	59	237	169	235	284
PBT bef. EO Exp.	2,352	2,374	1,402	2,936	13,011	11,289	15,089	19,128
EO Items	0	0	-204	0	0	0	0	0
PBT after EO Exp.	2,352	2,374	1,198	2,936	13,011	11,289	15,089	19,128
Total Tax	439	698	260	383	3,173	2,596	3,395	4,208
Tax Rate (%)	18.7	29.4	21.7	13.1	24.4	23.0	22.5	22.0
Minority Interest	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reported PAT	1,903	1,676	938	2,553	9,838	8,693	11,694	14,920
Adjusted PAT	1,903	1,676	1,097	2,553	9,838	8,693	11,694	14,920
Change (%)	42.3	-11.9	-34.5	132.6	285.4	-11.6	34.5	27.6
Margin (%)	10.0	8.1	4.8	9.0	20.4	18.0	19.9	21.0
Consolidated Balance Sheet								(INR m)
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Equity Share Capital	1,058	1,060	1,064	1,069	1,073	1,073	1,073	1,073
Total Reserves	12,247	13,766	14,520	16,629	24,902	32,286	42,218	54,891
Minority interest					32	32	32	32
Net Worth	13,304	14,826	15,584	17,698	26,007	33,390	43,323	55,996
Total Loans	8,417	9,649	10,030	10,123	13,871	13,671	12,171	9,671
Deferred Tax Liabilities	-699	-529	-534	-739	192	192	192	192
Capital Employed	21,023	23,946	25,081	27,081	40,070	47,253	55,686	65,859
Gross Block	14,088	17,851	20,976	23,821	27,949	34,597	41,776	48,872
Less: Accum. Deprn.	1,886	3,141	4,783	6,655	8,706	11,239	14,332	18,003
Net Fixed Assets	12,202	14,711	16,193	17,166	19,243	23,357	27,444	30,869
Goodwill on Consolidation	97	97	97	97	2,463	2,463	2,463	2,463
Capital WIP	1,433	1,632	1,096	672	3,622	4,474	4,495	4,399
Total Investments	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
Curr. Assets, Loans, and Adv.	12,069	13,165	15,357	18,589	32,145	33,712	40,694	51,526
Inventory	5,090	5,848	6,819	9,052	15,755	16,590	20,187	24,482
Account Receivables	5,676	5,706	7,099	7,914	13,061	13,128	16,416	20,019
Cash and Bank Balance	41	31	30	17	485	1,134	618	2,833
Loans and Advances	1,262	1,580	1,408	1,605	2,845	2,860	3,472	4,193
Curr. Liability and Prov.	4,812	5,692	7,697	9,477	17,437	16,788	19,444	23,433
Account Payables	2,631	3,123	4,883	6,156	11,787	11,107	12,549	15,106
Other Current Liabilities	1,988	2,316	2,449	2,753	4,894	4,920	5,972	7,212
Provisions	193	253	365	568	757	761	923	1,115
Net Current Assets	7,257	7,473	7,660	9,112	14,708	16,924	21,250	28,094
Appl. of Funds	21,023	23,946	25,081	27,081	40,070	47,253	55,686	65,859

Financials and valuations

Ratios								
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Basic (INR)								
EPS	3.5	3.1	2.0	4.8	18.3	16.2	21.8	27.8
Cash EPS	5.5	5.5	5.1	8.2	22.2	20.9	27.6	34.6
BV/Share	24.8	27.6	29.0	33.0	48.5	62.2	80.7	104.4
DPS	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.6	2.3	2.0	2.7	3.5
Payout (%)	10.0	0.0	20.4	15.1	15.1	15.1	15.1	15.1
Valuation (x)								
P/E	142.5	159.9	244.2	105.0	27.2	30.8	22.9	18.0
Cash P/E	91.1	91.5	97.8	60.6	22.5	23.9	18.1	14.4
P/BV	20.1	18.1	17.2	15.1	10.3	8.0	6.2	4.8
EV/Sales	14.5	13.4	12.1	9.8	5.8	5.8	4.8	3.9
EV/EBITDA	67.8	67.2	73.9	49.3	18.1	19.2	14.8	11.7
Dividend Yield (%)	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.7
FCF per share	1.0	-1.0	0.7	2.0	0.9	5.5	6.5	14.1
Return Ratios (%)								
RoE	17.4	11.9	7.2	15.3	45.0	29.3	30.5	30.0
RoCE	13.4	9.7	7.1	12.5	30.6	21.7	24.3	25.8
RoIC	13.5	9.7	7.2	13.0	32.7	24.0	26.6	28.2
Working Capital Ratios								
Inventory (Days)	98	103	109	117	119	125	125	126
Debtor (Days)	109	101	113	102	99	99	102	103
Creditor (Days)	50	55	78	79	89	84	78	78
Leverage Ratio (x)								
Current Ratio	2.5	2.3	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.2
Interest Coverage Ratio	3.0	3.6	2.4	4.2	19.7	12.5	16.3	22.0
Net Debt/Equity ratio	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1
Consolidated Cash Flow Stateme	ent							
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
OP/(Loss) before Tax	2,352	2,374	1,198	2,936	13,011	11,289	15,089	19,128
Depreciation	1,060	1,255	1,642	1,873	2,051	2,533	3,093	3,671
Interest and Finance Charges	931	505	720	837	579	795	734	612
Direct Taxes Paid	-501	-698	-260	-383	-2,285	-2,596	-3,395	-4,208
(Inc.)/Dec. in WC	-525	-226	-187	-1,465	-5,941	-1,567	-4,842	-4,629
CF from Operations	3,317	3,209	3,113	3,797	7,415	10,453	10,679	14,573
Others	3	216	-136	-323	-85	0	0	0
CF from Operations incl. EO	3,320	3,425	2,977	3,474	7,330	10,453	10,679	14,573
(Inc.)/Dec. in FA	-2,774	-3,962	-2,589	-2,421	-6,839	-7,500	-7,200	-7,000
Free Cash Flow	546	-537	387	1,053	491	2,953	3,479	7,573
(Pur.)/Sale of Investments	-113	0	0	0	-2,584	0	0	0
Others	0	120	60	210	13	169	235	284
CF from Investments	-2,887	-3,842	-2,529	-2,211	-9,410	-7,331	-6,965	-6,716
Issue of Shares	2,860	3	4	5	74	0	0	0
Inc./(Dec.) in Debt	-2,387	1,278	429	139	3,804	-200	-1,500	-2,500
Interest Paid	-950	-796	-882	-896	-580	-964	-969	-896
Dividend Paid	-59	0	-191	-384	-750	-1,309	-1,761	-2,247
Others	0	-62	193	-140	0	0	0	0
CF from Fin. Activity	-536	422	-448	-1,277	2,547	-2,473	-4,230	-5,642
Inc./Dec. in Cash	-103	6	0	-14	467	650	-516	2,215
Opening Balance	127	23	29	28	15	483	1,132	616
Closing balance	23	29	28	15	483	1,132	616	2,832
Bank balance	18	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Total Cash and Cash equivalent	41	31	30	17	485	1,134	618	2,833
. Cta. Cash and Cash equivalent	7.	<u> </u>			703	-,	010	_,000

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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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