India I Equities

Cement Company Update

3 February 2022

# **Orient Cement**

Lean balance sheet continues; retaining a Buy

In the high-cost milieu and heavy and unseasonal monsoon, Orient's performance was much better than its peers, although its EBITDA/PAT fell 14%/19% y/y (on a high base). While de-levering continues, the company has attractively financed the balance debt. Cost optimisation measures, a rake-handling system, the WHRS setup and solar power are positives. We retain our Buy rating, with a slightly lower target of Rs.233 (earlier Rs.240) on 7x FY24e EV/EBITDA.

**Volumes take a hit in line with the industry.** Cement volumes declined 10% y/y to 1.22m ton. The company maintained its market share in its prime region; the decline came from far-off un-remunerative markets. This was also visible in better realisations than peers'. Overall revenue registered 2% growth y/y to Rs6.17bn led by the strong rise (14% y/y) in realisation/ton to Rs5,070. For FY22, the company targets cement sales of 5.7m tons (down a fraction from 6m tons earlier). We expect volume/revenue to clock 10%/14% CAGRs over FY21-24 due to greater demand and higher prices.

**EBITDA/ton at Rs965, much better than industry.** High costs pushed EBITDA/ton down 4% y/y to Rs965, whereas EBITDA fell 14% y/y to Rs1.17bn. In the inflationary context now, the company did well on operation metrics. While fuel availability continues to be a concern, fuel cost coming off all-time highs would help. The solar facility, and newly ordered 10MW WHRS will save costs. We expect EBITDA to record a 13% CAGR over FY21-24.

**Business outlook; Valuation.** The company refinanced its debt at attractive rates and reduced net debt to Rs4.25bn in Jan'22. While the 0.5m-ton debottlenecking was completed, the 2m-ton GU expansion at Tiroda, Maha, and the expansion at Devapur (clinker ~2m tons, GU ~1m tons) are expected to be complete by FY24 subject to approvals received. We retain our Buy rating, with a lower target of Rs233. **Risks:** Rising pet-coke/diesel prices, demand slowdown.

FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e
24,218	23,241	27,501	31,038	34,695
866	2,142	2,639	3,269	3,655
4.2	10.5	12.9	16.0	17.8
10.6	9.4	13.4	10.8	9.6
5.5	4.8	6.7	6.1	5.9
36.1	45.4	64.1	67.7	75.2
8.0	17.7	18.6	19.4	18.2
6.2	11.1	13.1	14.2	13.2
1.7	2.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
1.1	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5
	24,218 866 4.2 10.6 5.5 36.1 8.0 6.2 1.7	24,218     23,241       866     2,142       4.2     10.5       10.6     9.4       5.5     4.8       36.1     45.4       8.0     17.7       6.2     11.1       1.7     2.0	24,218         23,241         27,501           866         2,142         2,639           4.2         10.5         12.9           10.6         9.4         13.4           5.5         4.8         6.7           36.1         45.4         64.1           8.0         17.7         18.6           6.2         11.1         13.1           1.7         2.0         0.9	24,218         23,241         27,501         31,038           866         2,142         2,639         3,269           4.2         10.5         12.9         16.0           10.6         9.4         13.4         10.8           5.5         4.8         6.7         6.1           36.1         45.4         64.1         67.7           8.0         17.7         18.6         19.4           6.2         11.1         13.1         14.2           1.7         2.0         0.9         0.9

Rating: **Buy** Target Price: Rs.233 Share Price: Rs.172

Key data	ORCMNT IN
52-week high / low	Rs186 / 88
Sensex / Nifty	58788 / 17560
3-m average volume	\$1.5m
Market cap	Rs35bn / \$473m
Shares outstanding	205m

Shareholding pattern (%)	Dec-21	Sept-21	Jun-21
Promoters	37.4	37.4	37.4
- of which, Pledged	-	-	14.0
Free float	62.6	62.6	62.6
- Foreign institutions	6.6	6.0	4.4
- Domestic institutions	15.4	15.9	20.6
- Public	40.6	40.7	37.6

Estimates revision (%)	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e
Sales	(7.0)	(2.7)	0.4
EBITDA	(11.6)	(4.4)	1.8
PAT	(17.3)	(9.5)	(4.9)



Source: Bloomberg

India Research Team

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Anand Rathi Research India Equities

# Quick Glance - Financials and Valuations

Year-end: Mar	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e
Sales volumes (m tons)	5.8	5.1	5.6	6.2	6.8
Net revenues	24,218	23,241	27,501	31,038	34,695
Growth (%)	-4.0	-4.0	18.3	12.9	11.8
Direct costs	16,057	13,843	17,063	19,234	21,436
SG&A	4,333	3,891	4,487	4,902	5,357
EBITDA	3,829	5,507	5,952	6,902	7,902
EBITDA margins (%)	15.8	23.7	21.6	22.2	22.8
- Depreciation	1,409	1,419	1,490	1,544	1,594
Other income	177	183	138	155	104
Interest expenses	1,223	936	601	559	874
PBT	1,374	3,336	3,998	4,954	5,537
Effective tax rate (%)	37.0	35.8	34.0	34.0	34.0
+ Associates / (Minorities)	-	-	-	-	-
Net income	866	2,142	2,639	3,269	3,655
Adjusted income	866	2,142	2,639	3,269	3,655
WANS	205	205	205	205	205
FDEPS (Rs / sh)	4.2	10.5	12.9	16.0	17.8
Adj. FDEPS growth (%)	82.1	147.4	23.2	23.9	11.8

Fig 2 - Balance sheet	(Rs m)				
Year-end: Mar	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e
Share capital	205	205	205	205	205
Net worth	11,184	13,059	15,391	18,353	21,700
Debt	12,264	7,966	4,966	7,466	11,966
Minority interest	-	-	-	-	-
DTL / (Assets)	1,219	1,811	1,811	1,811	1,811
Capital employed	24,667	22,837	22,168	27,630	35,477
Net tangible assets	22,098	21,460	20,683	20,589	19,545
Net Intangible assets	617	613	613	613	613
Goodwill	-	-	-	-	-
CWIP (tang. & intang.)	668	413	200	5,500	14,500
Investments (strategic)	-	-	-	-	-
Investments (financial)	-	1,151	-	-	-
Current assets (excl. cash)	5,255	4,122	5,651	6,378	7,129
Cash	360	362	446	673	534
Current liabilities	4,331	5,284	5,425	6,123	6,844
Working capital	923	-1,162	226	255	285
Capital deployed	24,667	22,837	22,168	27,630	35,477
Contingent liabilities	659	680	-	-	-

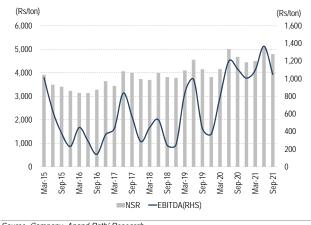
Fig 3 – Cash-flow statement (Rs m)										
J	•	•								
Year-end: Mar	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e					
PBT (Adj. OI and Interest)	2,420	4,088	4,462	5,358	6,308					
+ Non-cash items	1,409	1,419	1,490	1,544	1,594					
Oper. prof. before WC	3,829	5,507	5,952	6,902	7,902					
- Incr. / (decr.) in WC	841	-2,085	1,388	29	30					
Others incl. taxes	-	-	-	-	-					
Operating cash-flow	2,988	7,592	4,564	6,873	7,872					
- Capex (tang. + intang.)	768	522	500	6,750	9,550					
Free cash-flow	2,220	7,070	4,064	123	-1,678					
Acquisitions										
- Div.(incl. buyback & taxes)	185	410	307	307	307					
+ Equity raised	-	-	-	-	-					
+ Debt raised	-634	-4,297	-3,000	2,500	4,500					
- Fin investments	-	1,151	-1,151	-	-					
- Misc. (CFI + CFF)	1,328	1,211	1,823	2,088	2,653					
Net cash-flow	73	1	84	227	-139					
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Re	esearch									

Fig 4 – Ratio analysis					
Year-end: Mar	FY20	FY21	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e
P/E (x)	10.6	9.4	13.4	10.8	9.6
EV / EBITDA (x)	5.5	4.8	6.7	6.1	5.9
EV / Sales (x)	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.3
P/B (x)	0.8	1.5	2.3	1.9	1.6
RoE (%)	8.0	17.7	18.6	19.4	18.2
RoCE (%) - after tax	6.2	11.1	13.1	14.2	13.2
DPS (Rs / sh)	0.8	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.5
Dividend payout (%) - incl. DDT	21.4	19.1	11.6	9.4	8.4
Net debt / equity (x)	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5
Working capital (days)	13.9	-18.2	3.0	3.0	3.0
EV/ton (\$)	36.1	45.4	64.1	67.7	75.2
NSR / ton (Rs)	4,171	4,602	4,902	5,002	5,102
EBITDA / ton (Rs)	659	1,090	1,061	1,112	1,162
Volumes	5.81	5.05	5.61	6.21	6.80
CFO: PAT %	345.1	354.5	173.0	210.2	215.4
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Resear	ch				

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Fig 6 – Quarterly per-ton NSR and EBITDA trends



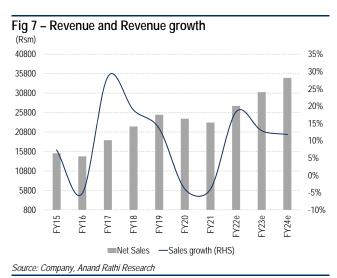
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Research

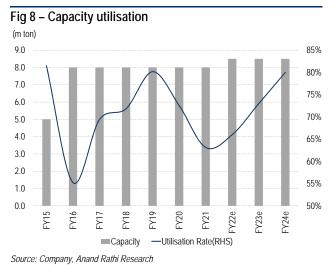
# Key updates

# Revenue growth

The company's key markets (Maharashtra 55%, Telangana/Karnataka/ AP 36%) together account for 91% of its revenue. The rest of its revenue arises from MP and the eastern region.

Q3 revenue grew 2.1% y/y to Rs6.15bn aided by 14% realisation growth y/y to Rs5,070/ton and a 10% y/y dip in cement sales volume growth to 1.22m tons. While cement demand was good in Oct and late Dec'22, Nov'22 was a washout on heavy and unseasonal rain. FY22 volumes are expected at 5.7m tons. To pass on higher input cost, prices were hiked by Rs15-20/bag in Oct'21 but they couldn't sustain through the quarter. The share of premium cement in trade sales was 12% (6% the quarter prior). The company has not lost market share in its core markets. Lower volumes were also because the company has chosen to stay away from far-off unremunerative markets, so that it maintains its minimum margin threshold This was visible in its higher-than-industry EBITDA margin.



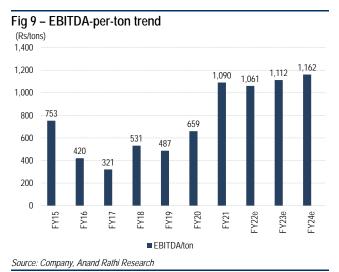


# Operating performance

Q3 EBITDA was Rs1.17bn, down 14% y/y. EBITDA/ton for the quarter was down 4% y/y to Rs965 (Rs1,006 a year ago, Rs1,048 the quarter prior).

Power and fuel cost/ton increased 25% y/y on high coal and petcoke prices, but was partially offset by greater efficiencies and increased use of alternative fuel (currently at 18% of clinker fuel requirement). Raw material cost/ton grew 11% y/y. Freight cost/ton increased 8% y/y primarily on account of the rise in diesel prices and higher packing cost, despite reduction in lead distance to slightly above 300km during the quarter.

The company reported Rs437m profit, down 18.9% y/y, on lower operating profit and lower other income, despite interest cost down 35% y/y.





# Result highlights

Fig 11 – Quarter	ly trend												
(Rs m)	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Q1 FY21	Q2 FY21	Q3 FY21	Q4 FY21	Q1 FY22	Q2 FY22	Q3 FY22	%Y/Y	%Q/Q
Sales	6,878	5,150	5,645	6,545	4,104	4,775	6,046	8,316	6,909	6,131	6,175	2.1	0.7
EBITDA	1,496	536	550	1,247	982	1,132	1,367	2,025	1,862	1,340	1,175	-14.0	-12.3
EBITDA margins %	21.7	10.4	9.7	19.1	23.9	23.7	22.6	24.4	27.0	21.9	19.0	-357bps	-282bps
EBITDA / ton	990	432	372	792	1,198	1,109	1,006	1,095	1,368	1,048	965	-4.1	-7.9
Interest	313	320	311	279	270	263	243	159	159	149	158	-35.1	6.1
Depreciation	353	365	346	345	346	354	360	359	353	364	368	2.4	1.1
Other income	36	41	27	74	56	27	74	27	21	30	25	-66.3	-17.0
PBT	866	(108)	(81)	696	422	542	837	1,534	1,371	857	674	-19.5	-21.3
Tax	307	(31)	(24)	256	166	194	299	536	477	288	237	-20.6	-17.6
ADJ. PAT	559	(77)	(57)	441	256	348	539	999	895	569	437	-18.9	-23.2
Source: Company, Anan	d Rathi Rese	arch											

Fig 12 – Per-ton analysis													
(Rs)	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Q1 FY21	Q2 FY21	Q3 FY21	Q4 FY21	Q1 FY22	Q2 FY22	Q3 FY22	% Y/Y	% Q/Q
Realisations	4,552	4,150	3,817	4,156	5,004	4,677	4,449	4,495	5,076	4,798	5,070	14.0	5.7
EBITDA	990	432	372	792	1,198	1,109	1,006	1,095	1,368	1,048	965	-4.1	-7.9
Sales volumes (m tons)	1.51	1.24	1.48	1.58	0.82	1.02	1.36	1.85	1.36	1.28	1.22	-10.4	-4.7
Costs													
Raw material	400	400	416	632	623	601	582	609	673	673	648	11.4	-3.7
Power & Fuel	1,059	1,075	959	992	836	877	918	907	970	1,049	1,149	25.1	9.5
Packing, Freight & Forwarding	1,227	1,189	1,141	1,217	1,162	1,175	1,204	1,243	1,312	1,273	1,301	8.1	2.2
Staff	274	319	259	227	453	353	278	225	294	289	341	22.8	18.0
Other expenditure	674	782	660	426	524	487	496	414	463	536	617	24.5	15.0
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Re-	search												

# Concall Highlights

- Volume, demand. The company has not lost market share in its core markets. Lower volumes are also because it has chosen to stay away from far-off un-remunerative markets, so that it maintains its minimum-margin threshold. While cement demand was good in Oct and late Dec'22, Nov'22 was a washout on heavy and unseasonal rains. FY22 volumes are expected at 5.6m tons, up 11% y/y.
- Pricing environment. Prices were hiked by Rs15-20/bag in Oct'21, but couldn't sustain during the quarter. The company has bridged the gap between itself and category A players on realisation. StrongCrete is 12% of trade sales (6% the prior quarter).

# ■ Operational highlights

- The rail-road mix was 20:80; the lead distance slightly over 300km. Higher diesel and plastics prices raised freight costs. Blended cement sales (PPC + Strongcrete) were 66% of sales volumes and trade sales were 60%.
- **Debt.** The company refinanced its debt at attractive rates and reduced Net debt to Rs4.25bn in Jan'22.

# ■ Expansion, capex

- The 0.5m-ton Devapur de-bottlenecking was completed in Sep'21.
- The order for the 10MW WHRS has been placed and the plant will be commissioned in 15 months.
- The 2m-ton GU at Tiroda, Maharshtra, will be implemented at Rs5bn capex by FY24. The company entered into a non-binding MoU with Adani Power, Maharashtra, on 23<sup>rd</sup> Sep'21, regarding facilitating the *bona fide* use of land to set up a GU in Maharashtra. It will be eligible for an incentive of 70% of the project cost in the form of soft loans.
- It will set up a rake-handling system at the Chittapur plant in FY23 at Rs100m capex to enable flyash sourcing from distant power plants at reasonable cost.
- The Devapur expansion (clinker ~2m tons, GU ~1m tons, CPP/WHRS) is expected to be over by end-FY24 at Rs16bn-17bn capex.
- FY22 capex is expected at Rs65m; FY23 capex would be Rs7bn and FY24, Rs14bn.
- Rajasthan mines. Not much progress has been made on the mining-lease transfer from Orient Paper to Orient Cement. The mines have estimated reserves for 40 years (100m tons) justifying the 2m-ton capacity expansion in Rajasthan.

**Investment.** The company acquired a 26% stake in AMP Solar Systems Pvt. Ltd. through a combination of equity and CCD at Rs40.5m. Solar power started from Oct'21 at the Jalgaon plant, reducing power & fuel cost.

# Valuations

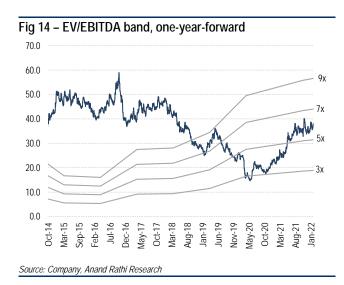
In the high-cost milieu and heavy & unseasonal monsoon, Orient's performance was much better than that of its peers, although its EBITDA/PAT declined 14%/19% y/y on a high base. While de-levering continues, the company attractively financed the balance debt. Cost optimisation, a rake-handling system, the WHRS setup and solar power are positives.

# Change in estimates

We change our FY22/FY23/FY24 estimates: revenue -7%/-2.7%/ 0.4%, EBITDA -11.6%/-4.4%/1.8%, PAT -17.3%/-9.5%/-4.9%, because of the lower than expected operating performance.

Fig 13 – Change in estimates												
		Old			New		Variance (%)					
(Rs m)	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY22	FY23	FY24			
Sales	29,584	31,889	34,559	27,501	31,038	34,695	(7.0)	(2.7)	0.4			
EBITDA	6,735	7,222	7,766	5,952	6,902	7,902	(11.6)	(4.4)	1.8			
PAT	3,190	3,614	3,843	2,639	3,269	3,655	(17.3)	(9.5)	(4.9)			
Source: Anan	Source: Anand Rathi Research											

At the CMP, the stock quotes at an EV/EBITDA of 5.9x FY24e and an EV/ton of \$75 on FY24e. We retain our Buy rating, with a slightly lower target of Rs.233 (earlier Rs.240) on 7.5x FY24e EV/EBITDA, implying an EV/ton of \$95.





# Risks

- Demand slowdown
- Rising prices of pet-coke and diesel.

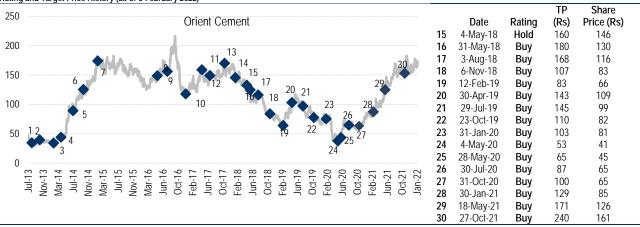
Fig 16 – Peer comparison – valuations										
	СМР	P/E (x)			EV / EBITDA (x)			EV / ton (\$)		
	(Rs)	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e	FY22e	FY23e	FY24e
Orient Cement	172	13.4	10.8	9.6	6.7	6.1	5.9	64	68	75
JK Cement	3,341	32.5	28.4	23.3	17.8	16.2	13.6	239	237	229
Birla Corp.	1,400	17.0	13.9	11.4	10.0	8.1	6.7	86	77	71
Ramco Cement	900	30.8	25.8	21.5	18.5	15.2	13.2	176	164	156
Dalmia Bharat	1,850	42.8	30.9	23.1	14.1	12.1	9.9	154	151	106
Deccan Cement	614	7.6	7.2	6.3	4.1	5.3	5.1	44	63	39
Heidelberg Cement	220	17.1	13.7	12.6	9.5	8.1	7.0	99	94	88
India Cement	216	38.7	22.2	16.6	13.2	10.4	8.7	82	81	77
JK Lakshmi	566	16.0	13.6	12.1	8.1	7.0	6.3	79	75	71
Mangalam Cement	380	9.2	7.6	6.6	6.0	4.9	3.9	46	41	36
Prism Johnson	136	31.5	25.1	19.8	11.3	9.9	8.3	104	89	74
Sanghi Industries	55	25.3	15.1	9.9	11.3	7.8	6.2	63	60	56
Star Cement	94	15.8	13.6	11.7	9.7	8.7	7.9	85	86	91
Source: Company, Anai	nd Rathi R	Research								

## **Appendix**

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Ratings Guide (12 months)				
_	Buy	Hold	Sell	
Large Caps (>US\$1bn)	>15%	5-15%	<5%	
Mid/Small Caps ( <us\$1bn)< td=""><td>&gt;25%</td><td>5-25%</td><td>&lt;5%</td><td></td></us\$1bn)<>	>25%	5-25%	<5%	

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