## **Birla Corporation**

Motilal Oswal

Bloomberg	BCORP IN
Equity Shares (m)	77
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	77.6 / 0.9
52-Week Range (INR)	1649 / 823
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	2/-11/-36
12M Avg Val (INR M)	163

## Financial Snapshot (INR b)

Y/E MARCH	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	_
Sales	88.5	93.1	100.5	
EBITDA	8.8	12.7	14.8	
Adj. PAT	1.0	3.8	5.5	
EBITDA Margin (%)	9.9	13.7	14.7	
Adj. EPS (INR)	12.9	49.6	71.2	
EPS Gr. (%)	-77.0	285.2	43.6	
BV/Sh. (INR)	790	829	889	
Ratios				
Net D:E	0.6	0.6	0.5	
RoE (%)	1.6	6.1	8.3	
RoCE (%)	3.1	5.7	6.9	
Payout (%)	61.6	20.2	16.9	
Valuations				-
P/E (x)	78.3	20.3	14.1	
P/BV (x)	1.3	1.2	1.1	
EV/EBITDA(x)	12.8	8.7	7.1	-
EV/ton (USD)	71	66	63	
Div. Yield (%)	0.7	1.0	1.2	-

## Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Sep-22	Jun-22	Sep-21
Promoter	62.9	62.9	62.9
DII	15.8	16.1	15.4
FII	4.3	4.3	3.7
Others	17.0	16.7	18.1

FII Includes depository receipts

## CMP: INR1,007 TP: INR1,210 (+20%) Buy

## Higher costs dent performance; debt increases further

Announces changes in the leadership team

- BCORP's 2QFY23 performance was below estimate due to lower sales volume (-4% v/s estimate) and higher opex (+5% v/s estimate). Consol. EBITDA stood at INR940m v/s estimated INR1.9b and EBITDA/t was at INR258 v/s estimated INR496. Net loss was at INR565m v/s estimated loss of INR36m.
- Mr. Arvind Pathak has stepped down from the position of MD & CEO. Mr.
  Sandip Ghose (having a rich experience of 39 years with 13 years in the cement industry), Ex-Chief Operating Officer of the company will join from 1st Dec'22 and will be the MD/CEO effective 1st Jan'23 for a three-year period.
- Lower profits in 1HFY23 due to the delay in stabilization of Mukutban plant lead us to cut our EBITDA estimate for FY23/24 by 17%/8%. Profit estimates are being reduced by 56%/18% for FY23/24. BCORP's valuation at 8.7x/7.1x FY24E/25E EV/EBITDA looks reasonable. **Maintain BUY.**

## Weak volume and higher Opex/t impact profitability adversely

- BCORP's revenue/EBITDA stood at INR20b/INR940m (+18%/-65% YoY and 3%/50% below our estimates). Cement realization rose 6% YoY (-4% QoQ). Sales volume was up 11% YoY (- 7% QoQ) to 3.64mt (-4% v/s our estimate).
- Blended cost of production/t grew 20% YoY, led by a 25%/20%/15% increase in variable cost/other expenses/freight cost, respectively. Employee cost was up 18% YoY to INR1.3b. EBITDA/t declined 68% YoY and OPM fell 11pp YoY.
- For 1HFY23, revenue grew 22% YoY led by 14%/7% growth in realization/ sales volume. However, cost pressures (Opex/t up 19% YoY) led to 42% YoY decline in EBITDA to INR3.5b. OPM fell 9.3pp YoY to 8.4% and EBITDA/t declined 49% YoY to INR467. Adjusted PAT was down 92% YoY to INR171m.
- CFO turned negative at INR2.8b v/s INR4.6b in 1HFY22, partly due to increase in working capital by INR4.6b. Consolidated gross/net debt stood at INR44.7b/INR41.7b v/s INR42.1b/INR34.7 in Mar'22, respectively.

## Highlights from the management commentary

- Mukutban plant commissioned in Apr'22 is estimated to produce 1mt cement in FY23. EBITDA/t excluding Mukutban would have been at INR409.
- The kiln at Mukutban plant was shut for a substantial period due to weak demand (~26% capacity utilization in 2QFY23). Further, cost was higher due to dependence on imported coal and higher logistics cost. With commissioning of railway siding and WHRS (from Dec'22), usage of petcoke and GST incentives from FY24, performance of this unit is likely to improve.
- AFR contributed 9% to fuel consumption v/s 6% in 2QFY22. This is expected to increase to ~12% going forward. Green energy share was at 20.6% in 2Q.

Sanjeev Kumar Singh - Research analyst (Sanjeev.Singh@MotilalOswal.com)

Mudit Agarwal - Research analyst (Mudit.Agarwal@MotilalOswal.com)

Investors are advised to refer through important disclosures made at the last page of the Research Report.

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## Valuations attractive; maintain BUY

- BCORP's profitability has been impacted adversely due to a delay in stabilization of Mukutban plant, which led to higher-than-estimated opex. We estimate margins to improve in 2HFY23 (OPM at 11.3% v/s 8.4% in 1HFY23).
- BCORP's net debt has increased in 1HFY23 due to completion of Mukutban Project and higher working capital requirement. We estimate net debt to be at INR38.8b by FY23-end v/s INR41.7b as of Sep'22.
- BCORP trades at 8.7x/7.1x FY24E/FY25E EV/EBITDA (v/s one-year forward EV/EBITDA of 8x over FY14-22), a much lower valuation than the average for companies with similar capacities. We maintain our BUY rating with a TP of INR1,210 (v/s INR1,275 earlier), based on 9x Sep'24 EV/EBITDA (earlier Mar'24).

Consolidated performance												(INR b)
Y/E March		FY2	2			FY2	23		FY22	FY23E	FY23	Var.
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3QE	4QE			2QE	(%)
Cement Sales (MT)	3.35	3.27	3.35	4.24	3.93	3.64	3.97	4.54	14.22	16.08	3.77	(4)
YoY Change (%)	39.0	0.3	(5.6)	1.7	17.3	11.3	18.4	7.1	6.2	13.1	15.4	
Cement Realization	4,943	4,878	4,934	5,071	5,344	5,151	5,201	5,213	4,961	5,228	5,184	(1)
YoY Change (%)	0.2	(0.0)	3.4	4.4	8.1	5.6	5.4	2.8	2.2	5.4	6.3	
QoQ Change (%)	1.8	(1.3)	1.2	2.8	5.4	(3.6)	1.0	0.2			(3.0)	
Net Sales	17.5	17.0	17.5	22.6	22.0	20.0	21.7	24.8	74.6	88.5	20.7	(3)
YoY Change (%)	43.1	2.6	(1.5)	6.2	26.0	17.8	24.0	9.6	10.0	18.7	21.8	
Total Expenditure	14.1	14.3	15.3	19.9	19.4	19.1	19.7	21.6	63.5	79.7	18.8	1
EBITDA	3.4	2.7	2.2	2.8	2.6	0.9	2.0	3.2	11.1	8.8	1.9	(50)
Margin (%)	19.6	15.7	12.7	12.2	11.8	4.7	9.4	13.0	14.9	9.9	9.0	(435bp)
Depreciation	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	4.0	5.0	1.3	(2)
Interest	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.0	2.4	3.6	0.8	13
Other Income	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.4	1.0	1.2	0.2	132
Profit before Tax	1.9	1.2	0.7	1.9	0.9	-0.8	0.0	1.3	5.7	1.3	0.0	NM
EO (Income)/Expense	-	-	(70)	341	117	-	-	-	271	117	-	
Profit before Tax after EO	1.9	1.2	0.7	1.6	0.8	-0.8	0.0	1.3	5.4	1.2	0.0	NM
Тах	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.2	-0.3	0.0	0.5	1.4	0.3	0.0	NM
Rate (%)	25.7	28.2	19.2	29.5	19.7	31.5	26.0	35.5	26.5	28.5	26.0	
Reported PAT	1.4	0.9	0.6	1.1	0.6	-0.6	0.0	0.8	4.0	0.9	0.0	NM
Adj. PAT	1.4	0.9	0.7	1.4	0.7	-0.6	0.0	0.8	4.3	1.0	0.0	NM
Margin (%)	8.1	5.0	3.8	6.1	3.3	-2.8	-0.1	3.4	5.8	1.1	-0.2	NM
YoY Change (%)	115.3	(48.7)	(55.7)	(16.0)	(48.0)	NM	NM	(39.0)	(21.0)	(77.0)	NM	
Per tonne analysis (INR)												
Blended Realization	5,221	5,192	5,224	5,340	5,608	5,494	5,468	5,466	5,247	5,507	5,481	0
YoY Change (%)	3.0	2.3	4.4	4.4	7.4	5.8	4.7	2.3	3.5	5.0	5.6	
Raw Material	477	772	510	1,110	565	592	642	813	741	660	665	(11)
Staff Cost	324	341	343	267	325	361	333	293	315	326	323	12
Power and Fuel	1,113	1,035	1,383	1,062	1,564	1,671	1,521	1,358	1,142	1,520	1,664	0
Transport and Forwarding	1,242	1,185	1,238	1,252	1,330	1,361	1,340	1,335	1,230	1,341	1,200	13
Other Exp.	1,039	1,042	1,087	997	1,163	1,250	1,120	955	1,038	1,113	1,133	10
Total Expenditure	4,196	4,375	4,560	4,688	4,948	5,236	4,956	4,754	4,466	4,960	4,985	5
EBITDA	1,026	817	664	653	660	258	512	712	781	547	496	(48)

Source: Company, MOFSL Estimates

(INR b)	Rev	ised	0	ld	Change (%)		
	FY23E	FY24E	FY23E	FY24E	FY23E	FY24E	
Revenue	88.5	93.1	88.0	92.2	1	1	
EBITDA	8.8	12.7	10.6	13.8	(17)	(8)	
РАТ	1.0	3.8	2.3	4.7	(56)	(18)	
EPS (INR)	12.9	49.6	29.6	60.7	(56)	(18)	

Source: Company, MOFSL estimates

8

LQFY23 2QFY23

**IQFY22** 

Source: Company, MOFSL

4

3

932 5,071 6

5,151

-O-YoY chg (%)

0 (0)

943

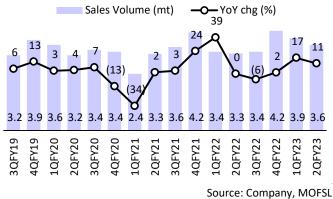
1QFY22 2QFY22 3QFY22

## **Story in charts**



(0)

3QFY19





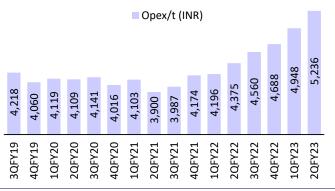


Exhibit 5: ....leading to 68% YoY EBITDA/t decline

Realization (INR/t)

(0)

4,935 4,880

LQFY21 2QFY21 3QFY21

1

1

,856

4QFY21

4

4,816

10

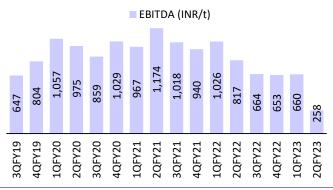
4,954

1QFY20

IQFY19

2QFY20 3QFY20 4QFY20

6



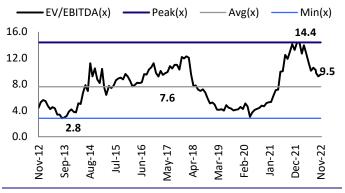
Source: Company, MOFSL

Source: Company, MOFSL

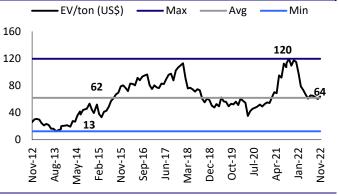
2QFY23	2QFY22	YoY (%)	1QFY23	QoQ (%)
5,494	5,192	6	5,608	(2)
592	772	(23)	565	5
361	341	6	325	11
1,671	1,035	61	1,564	7
1,361	1,185	15	1,330	2
1,250	1,042	20	1,163	8
5,236	4,375	20	4,948	6
258	817	(68)	660	(61)
	5,494 592 361 1,671 1,361 1,250 5,236	5,494         5,192           592         772           361         341           1,671         1,035           1,361         1,185           1,250         1,042           5,236         4,375	5,494         5,192         6           592         772         (23)           361         341         6           1,671         1,035         61           1,361         1,185         15           1,250         1,042         20           5,236         4,375         20	5,494         5,192         6         5,608           592         772         (23)         565           361         341         6         325           1,671         1,035         61         1,564           1,361         1,185         15         1,330           1,250         1,042         20         1,163           5,236         4,375         20         4,948

Source: Company, MOFSL

## Exhibit 7: One-year forward EV/EBITDA trend



## Exhibit 8: One-year forward EV/t trend



Source: Company, MOFSL

Source: Company, MOFSL

## **Financials and valuations**

Consolidated Income Statement Y/E March	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	(INR m) FY25E
Net Sales	57,342	65,487	69,157	67,855	74,612	88,542	93,087	1,00,478
Change (%)	31.9	14.2	5.6	-1.9	10.0	18.7	5.1	7.9
Total Expenditure	49,275	56,001	55,797	54,163	63,512	79,744	80,344	85,664
EBITDA	49,275 <b>8,066</b>	9,486	13,360	<b>13,691</b>	<b>11,100</b>	8,798	12,743	14,814
Margin (%)	14.1	14.5	19.3	20.2	14.9	9.9	13.7	14.7
Depreciation	3,322	3,391	3,519	3,708	3,969	5,033	5,252	5,416
EBIT	4,745	6,095	9,841	9,984	7,131	3,033 3,765	7,491	9,398
Int. and Finance Charges	3,776	3,705	3,877	2,963	2,427	3,577	3,543	3,296
Other Income - Rec.	755	785	851	673	988	1,151	1,210	1,306
PBT after EO	1,598	3,174	6,815	8,375	5,421	1,131	5,158	7,408
Change (%)	-30.6	98.6	114.7	22.9	-35.3	-77.4	321.9	43.6
Tax	-50.0	617	1,763	2,074	1,435	348	1,341	1,926
Tax Rate (%)	3.7	19.4	25.9	2,074	26.5	28.5	26.0	26.0
Reported PAT	1,540	<b>2,557</b>	<b>5,052</b>			28.5 <b>874</b>	3,817	<b>5,482</b>
•	125	2,557	<b>3,032</b>	<b>6,301</b> -681	<b>3,986</b> 271	117	<b>3,817</b>	<b>5,462</b>
Extra-Ordinary Expenses								
PAT Adjusted for EO Items	1,664	2,557	5,052	5,460	4,313	991	3,817	5,482
Change (%) Margin (%)	-26.4	53.6 3.9	97.6 7.3	8.1	-21.0 5.8	-77.0	285.2	43.6 5.5
Balance Sheet Y/E March	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	(INR m) FY25E
Equity Share Capital	770	770	770	770	770	770	770	770
Reserves	42,028	44,182	47,291	54,090	59,718	60,054		67,659
Net Worth	,	,		54,090 54,860	,	,	63,101	
Loans	<b>42,798</b> 38,951	<b>44,952</b> 40,492	<b>48,061</b> 42,820	40,464	<b>60,488</b> 42,080	<b>60,824</b> 42,080	<b>63,871</b> 41,280	<b>68,429</b> 36,280
Deferred Liabilities				,		,		
	7,452 <b>89,201</b>	7,422 92,866	8,568 <b>99,449</b>	8,668	9,722 <b>1,12,291</b>	9,722	9,722	9,722
Capital Employed Gross Block				<b>1,03,992</b> 91,087		1,12,626	1,14,873	1,14,431
Less: Accum. Deprn.	81,071 7,361	83,400 10,738	87,430 14,158	17,852	97,586 21,821	1,26,097 26,854	1,30,097 32,106	1,34,097 37,522
Net Fixed Assets	73,710	<b>72,662</b>	<b>73,273</b>	<b>73,235</b>	<b>75,765</b>	<b>99,242</b>	97,990	96,574
Capital WIP	7,599	9,119	16,020	21,048	25,511	3,000	3,000	3,000
Investments	6,723	8,769	8,363	7,526	10,093	6,093	6,093	6,093
Curr. Assets	22,717	22,765	24,098	<b>27,147</b>	<b>27,147</b>	<b>31,392</b>	<b>31,832</b>	<b>33,802</b>
Inventory Account Receivables	6,870	7,830	7,876	8,101	8,200	9,740	9,309	10,048
	1,914	2,622	2,504	2,795	3,028	3,630	3,817	
Cash and Bank Balance	2,198	1,390	2,558	1,773	1,380	1,302	1,484	1,895
Others Curr. Liability and Prov.	11,735	10,924	11,160	14,479	14,539	16,721	17,223	17,740
	21,548	<b>20,450</b>	22,306	<b>24,964</b>	26,225	<b>27,102</b>	<b>24,042</b>	25,039
Account Payables	21,056	19,911	21,637	24,230	25,453	26,563	23,272	24,115
Provisions	492	538	669	734	772	539	770	924
	1 1 ( )	2.210	1 702	2.104	022	4 204	7 700	0.700
Net Current Assets Appl. of Funds	1,169 89,201	2,316 92,866	1,793 99,449	2,184 1,03,992	922 1,12,291	4,291 1,12,626	7,790 1,14,874	8,763 1,14,431

Source: Company, MOFSL Estimates

## **Financials and valuations**

Ratios								
Y/E March	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Basic (INR)								
EPS	21.6	33.2	65.6	70.9	56.0	12.9	49.6	71.2
Cash EPS	64.7	77.2	111.3	119.0	107.6	78.2	117.8	141.5
BV/Share	555.8	583.7	624.1	712.4	785.5	789.8	829.4	888.6
DPS	6.5	7.5	7.5	10.0	10.0	7.0	10.0	12.0
Payout (%)	37.8	26.2	13.3	12.2	19.3	61.6	20.2	16.9
Valuation (x)								
P/E		30.3	15.4	14.2	18.0	78.3	20.3	14.1
Cash P/E		13.0	9.0	8.5	9.4	12.9	8.6	7.1
P/BV		1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1
EV/Sales		1.5	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.0
EV/EBITDA		11.4	8.2	7.9	9.7	12.8	8.7	7.1
EV/t - Cap (USD)		86	87	86	86	71	66	63
Dividend Yield (%)		0.7	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.7	1.0	1.2
Return Ratios (%)								
RoE	4.4	5.8	10.9	10.6	7.5	1.6	6.1	8.3
RoCE	6.3	6.1	8.2	7.9	5.5	3.1	5.7	6.9
RoIC	6.8	6.7	10.0	10.3	7.0	3.0	5.4	6.7
Working Capital Ratios	0.0	0.7	10.0	10.5	7.0	5.0	5.4	0.7
Inventory (Days)	44	44	42	44	40	40	37	37
Debtor (Days)	12	15	13	15	15	15	15	15
Working Capital Turnover (Days)	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9
Leverage Ratio	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.5
Current ratio	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.3
Debt/Equity (x)	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5
	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.5
Cash Flow Statement								(INR m)
Y/E March	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
OP/(Loss) before Tax	1,598	3,174	6,815	7,126	5,378	1,223	5,158	7,408
Depreciation	3,322	3,391	3,519	3,708	3,969	5,033	5,252	5,416
Interest and Finance Charges	3,776	3,705	3,877	2,963	2,427	3,577	3,543	3,296
Direct Taxes Paid	-552	-469	-418	-843	-610	-348	-1,341	-1,926
(Inc.)/Dec. in WC	481	1,309	207	-201	-2	-3,446	-3,317	-563
CF from Operations	8,625	11,111	14,000	12,752	11,162	6,038	9,295	13,631
Others	-577	-470	-588	532	-770	0,050	0	0
CF from Operating incl. EO	8,049	10,641	13,412	13,284	10,392	6,038	9,295	13,631
(Inc.)/Dec. in FA	-2,754	-4,030	-9,860	-8,028	-7,762	-6,000	-4,000	-4,000
Free Cash Flow	<b>5,295</b>	<b>6,611</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>5,256</b>	2,629	38	<b>5,295</b>	9,631
(Pur.)/Sale of Investments	-541		-446				<b>3,295</b>	<b>9,031</b>
Others	-129	-1,521 -550	-440	2,438	-1,269 950	4,000	0	0
				-1,699		0		-
CF from Investments	-3,423	-6,101	-10,232	-7,289	-8,082	-2,000	-4,000	-4,000
Issue of Shares	-1,391	1 207	0	0	1 246	0	0	0 E 000
	-1.391	-1,297	1,860	-2,252	1,246	0	-800	-5,000
Inc./(Dec.) in Debt		2 4 4 0	2 0 7 2					
Interest Paid	-3,558	-3,448	-3,872	-3,493	-3,179	-3,577	-3,543	-3,296
Interest Paid Dividend Paid	-3,558 -501	-501	0	-1,036	-770	-539	-770	-924
Interest Paid Dividend Paid Others	-3,558 -501 -102	-501 -103	0	-1,036 0	-770 0	-539 0	-770 0	-924 0
Interest Paid Dividend Paid Others CF from Fin. Activity	-3,558 -501 -102 <b>-5,552</b>	-501 -103 <b>-5,349</b>	0 0 - <b>2,012</b>	-1,036 0 <b>-6,781</b>	-770 0 <b>-2,703</b>	-539 0 <b>-4,116</b>	-770 0 <b>-5,113</b>	-924 0 <b>-9,220</b>
Interest Paid Dividend Paid Others CF from Fin. Activity Inc./Dec. in Cash	-3,558 -501 -102 <b>-5,552</b> <b>-926</b>	-501 -103 <b>-5,349</b> - <b>808</b>	0 0 -2,012 1,169	-1,036 0 <b>-6,781</b> - <b>786</b>	-770 0 -2,703 -393	-539 0 <b>-4,116</b> - <b>78</b>	-770 0 - <b>5,113</b> 182	-924 0 <b>-9,220</b> 411
Interest Paid Dividend Paid Others CF from Fin. Activity	-3,558 -501 -102 <b>-5,552</b>	-501 -103 <b>-5,349</b>	0 0 - <b>2,012</b>	-1,036 0 <b>-6,781</b>	-770 0 <b>-2,703</b>	-539 0 <b>-4,116</b>	-770 0 <b>-5,113</b>	-924 0 <b>-9,220</b>

2,559

1,772

Closing Balance Source: Company, MOFSL estimates 2,198

1,390

1,895

1,302

1,380

1,484

ΝΟΤΕS

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

\*In case the recommendation given by the Research Analyst is inconsistent with the investment rating legend for a continuous period of 30 days, the Research Analyst shall be within following 30 days take appropriate measures to make the recommendation consistent with the investment rating legend.

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