EPL

Motilal Oswal

Estimate change	
TP change	
Rating change	\longleftrightarrow

Bloomberg	EPLL IN
Equity Shares (m)	316
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	48.3 / 0.6
52-Week Range (INR)	197 / 147
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	-9/-10/-22
12M Avg Val (INR M)	84

Financials & Valuations (INR b)

Y/E Mar	2023E	2024E	2024E
Sales	37.0	42.8	46.1
EBITDA	5.9	7.5	8.5
PAT	2.0	2.9	3.6
EBITDA (%)	15.9	17.5	18.4
EPS (INR)	6.3	9.2	11.3
EPS Gr. (%)	-6.6	45.3	23.1
BV/Sh. (INR)	59.5	63.7	70.1
Ratios			
Net D/E	0.3	0.2	0.1
RoE (%)	10.8	14.9	16.9
RoCE (%)	10.3	13.4	15.5
Payout (%)	71.4	54.3	44.1
Valuations			
P/E (x)	24.0	16.5	13.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	9.1	7.0	5.9
Div Yield (%)	3.0	3.3	3.3
FCF Yield (%)	3.0	6.9	8.8

Shareholding pattern (%)

	01		
	Dec-22	Sep-22	Dec-21
Promoter	51.5	51.9	51.9
DII	15.9	15.9	14.1
FII	12.1	12.2	15.0
Others	20.4	20.0	19.1
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Note: FII includes depository receipts

TP: INR210 (+38%)

Buy

Muted operating performance due to drag from EAP and Europe EBITDA below our estimate

- EPLL reported a muted operating performance (EBITDA margins expanded marginally by 10bp YoY), on account of a drag in margins from EAP and Europe which was offset by AMESA and America, while revenue improved 7%, on the back of a broad-based growth across all regions, except EAP.
- Factoring in muted 3QFY23 earnings, we lower our earnings estimates for FY23/FY24/FY25 by 1%/8%/5%, respectively. We value the stock at 19x Dec'24 EPS to arrive at our TP of INR210. We reiterate our **Buy** rating on the stock.

America, AMESA, and Europe drive sales growth

CMP: INR152

- Revenue grew 7% YoY to INR9.5b (est. INR9.75b), on the back of broad-based growth across all regions, except EAP (down 8% YoY). Gross Margin contracted 20bp YoY to 54.8%, due to volatility in raw material prices. EBITDA margin expanded marginally by 10bp YoY to 15.8% (est. 16.4%) on account of a drag in margins from EAP and Europe, which was offset by AMESA and America. EBITDA grew 7% YoY to INR1.5b (est. INR1.6b). Adjusted PAT grew 10% YoY to INR628m (est. INR574m).
- Revenue from AMESA/Americas/Europe grew 9%/19%/10% YoY to
 INR3.5b/INR2.3b/INR1.9b, respectively. While, revenue from EAP declined
 8% YoY to INR2.3b. EBIT margin expanded 60bp/200bp YoY to 11.5%/4.8%
 for AMESA/Americas, respectively, while the same for EAP declined by 90bp to 16.1%.
- The Oral Care/Personal care segment grew 7%/13% YoY, respectively, in 9MFY23, with the share of Personal care segment standing at ~47% for 9MFY23 v/s 46% in FY22.
- In 9MFY23, revenue grew 7% YoY to INR27.3b, while EBIDTA/adjusted PAT declined 4%/13% to INR4.2b/INR1.4b, respectively.

Highlights from the management commentary

- Guidance: EPLL is targeting double-digit revenue growth in the medium term. Revenue growth going ahead will be a combination of growth in volume and prices along with a better product mix.
- The margins have improved on a sequential basis, on the back of a decline in raw material prices. The company is making continued efforts toward margin recovery and aims to take operating margin back to historical levels.
- EPLL Brazil project is on track and customer's trials are underway in the new plant. The management is expecting a significant ramp-up of plant from 1QFY24 onwards.

Valuation and view

- With the softening of raw material prices and price hikes taken across regions in recent months, we expect the sequential recovery in margin witnessed in 3QFY23 to continue going forwards.
- We expect a revenue/EBITDA/adjusted PAT CAGR of 12%/20%/34%, respectively, over FY23-25.

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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. Factoring in muted 3QFY23 earnings, we lower our earnings estimates for FY23/FY24/FY25 by 1%/8%/5%, respectively. We value the stock at 19x Dec'24 EPS to arrive at our TP of INR210. We reiterate our **Buy** rating on the stock.

Consolidated - Quarterly Earnings Model												(INRm)
Y/E March		FY	22			FY	23		FY22	FY23E	FY23E	Var
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4QE			3Q	%
Gross Sales	7,991	8,701	8,834	8,802	8,318	9,481	9,449	9,710	34,328	36,958	9,748	-3
YoY Change (%)	7.8	13.0	14.9	8.6	4.1	9.0	7.0	10.3	11.1	7.7	10.4	
Total Expenditure	6,542	7,107	7,447	7,471	7,062	7,995	7,959	8,057	28,567	31,073	8,150	
EBITDA	1,449	1,594	1,387	1,331	1,256	1,486	1,490	1,653	5,761	5,885	1,599	-7
Margins (%)	18.1	18.3	15.7	15.1	15.1	15.7	15.8	17.0	16.8	15.9	16.4	
Depreciation	619	622	642	631	652	664	699	720	2,514	2,735	680	
Interest	89	97	103	114	122	157	189	185	403	653	150	
Other Income	53	14	31	22	42	68	43	40	120	193	50	
PBT before EO expense	794	889	673	608	524	733	645	788	2,964	2,690	819	
Extra-Ord expense	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	0	
PBT	794	889	673	608	513	733	645	788	2,964	2,679	819	
Tax	189	297	82	107	141	249	10	213	675	613	221	
Rate (%)	23.8	33.4	12.2	17.6	27.5	34.0	1.6	27.0	22.8	22.9	27.0	
Minority Interest & Profit/Loss of Asso. Cos.	-26	-85	-20	-14	-38	-22	-7	-8	-145	-75	-24	
Reported PAT	579	507	571	487	334	462	628	567	2,144	1,991	574	
Adj PAT	579	507	571	487	345	462	628	567	2,144	2,002	574	9
YoY Change (%)	-4.3	-24.3	-19.5	-14.3	-40.4	-8.9	10.0	16.5	-16.0	-6.6	0.5	
Margins (%)	7.2	5.8	6.5	5.5	4.1	4.9	6.6	5.8	6.2	5.4	5.9	

Exhibit 1: Key performance indicators

Y/E March	3QFY21	4QFY21	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23
Segment Revenue Gr. (%)									
AMESA	-6	28	29	19	36	14	13	17	9
EAP	17	37	2	12	20	7	-6	1	-8
Americas	19	2	9	22	9	12	20	20	19
Europe	9	6	-10	-3	-2	4	11	9	10
Segment EBIT Margin (%)									
AMESA	13	8	11	11	11	9	10	9	11
EAP	19	12	17	17	17	8	13	17	16
Americas	12	12	7	9	3	10	5	5	5
Europe	6	9	6	4	-1	5	2	3	-2
Cost Break-up									
RM Cost (% of sales)	40	43	42	43	45	46	44	46	45
Employee Cost (% of sales)	20	19	19	19	19	18	20	18	19
Other Cost (% of sales)	19	20	20	19	20	20	21	20	21
Gross Margins (%)	60	57	58	57	55	54	56	54	55
EBITDA Margins (%)	21	17	18	18	16	15	15	16	16
EBIT Margins (%)	13	10	10	11	8	8	7	9	8

Source: Company, MOFSL

Key exhibits

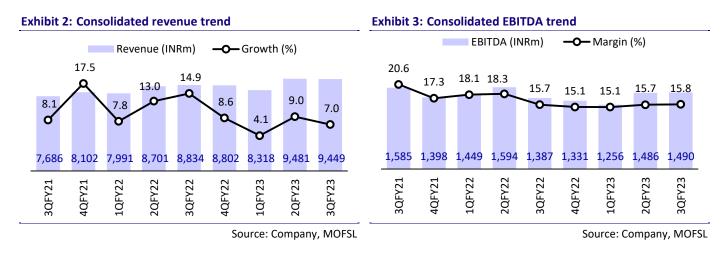
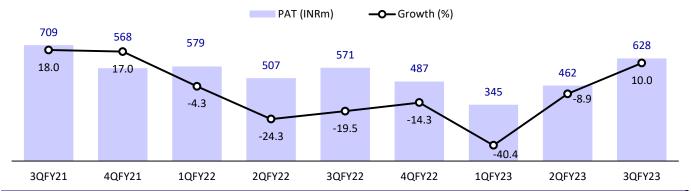


Exhibit 4: Consolidated adjusted PAT trend



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 5: AMESA region

	3QFY21	4QFY21	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23
Revenue (INR m)	2,376	2,766	2,819	3,075	3,225	3,140	3,197	3,595	3,521
Growth (%)	-6	28	29	19	36	14	13	17	9
EBIT (INR m)	315	224	311	352	353	277	309	333	404
Margin (%)	13	8	11	11	11	9	10	9	11
Growth (%)	-15	-7	94	-8	12	24	-1	-5	14

Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 6: EAP region

	3QFY21	4QFY21	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23
Revenue (INR m)	2,043	1,849	2,060	2,136	2,459	1,971	1,928	2,166	2,263
Growth (%)	17	37	2	12	20	7	-6	1	-8
EBIT (INR m)	385	216	345	353	419	160	247	377	365
Margin (%)	19	12	17	17	17	8	13	17	16
Growth (%)	18	45	-21	-11	9	-26	-28	7	-13

Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 7: Americas region

	3QFY21	4QFY21	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23
Revenue (INR m)	1,736	1,749	1,639	1,860	1,899	1,964	1,973	2,226	2,260
Growth (%)	19	2	9	22	9	12	20	20	19
EBIT (INR m)	201	202	119	168	53	189	105	106	109
Margin (%)	12	12	7	9	3	10	5	5	5
Growth (%)	-7	-32	-23	8	-74	-6	-12	-37	106

Source: Company, MOFSL

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Exhibit 8: Europe region

	3QFY21	4QFY21	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23
Revenue (INR m)	1,768	2,002	1,784	1,882	1,732	2,086	1,972	2,050	1,911
Growth (%)	9	6	-10	-3	-2	4	11	9	10
EBIT (INR m)	99	189	99	75	-22	104	34	70	-36
Margin (%)	6	9	6	4	-1	5	2	3	-2
Growth (%)	2	40	-45	-53	-122	-45	-66	-7	64

Source: Company, MOFSL



Highlights from the management commentary

Europe

- Business in Europe was adversely impacted by general softening of demand witnessed in the Christmas quarter and postponement of an order by a key customer.
- Accordingly, Europe witnessed higher losses during the quarter, due to the absence of operating leverage
- The price increases in Europe is more regular as compared to other regions because of continuous increase in the cost for the region.
- The management is expecting Europe to bounce back in 4QFY23.

EAP

- Revenues from EAP were adversely impacted due to Covid in China. The pandemic, along with annual Chinese holiday, continues to adversely impact the demand from the region.
- However, the management is expecting demand from China to improve on the back of stabilizing Covid situation and the end of Chinese annual holidays.

AMESA

- The company is confident of continuing its growth momentum in AMESA on the back of the current demand trend in the region.
- The management is expecting margins in the region to improve in the medium term.

Upcoming Brazil plant

- The Brazil project is progressing well for the company and customer trials are underway in the new plant.
- The management is expecting the new plant to contribute toward the sales volume from 4QFY23. However, a significant ramp-up of plant is expected from 1QFY24.

Oral and Non Oral Segment

- The Personal care segment is growing faster than the Oral segment. However, the company is not witnessing any slowdown in demand in the Oral segment
- For 9MFY23, the personal care segment contribution to total sales stood at ~47%. The contribution from the personal care segment is increasing over the period of time.

Margins

- Raw material prices were continuously rising during the year. However, it started to decline from 2QFY23. Accordingly, margins are under pressure on a YoY basis, but are improving sequentially.
- The company is making continued efforts toward margin recovery and aims to take operating margins back to historical levels.

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The management is aiming for mid teen margins in both Europe and America.

Guidance

- The management is expecting a double-digit revenue growth, led by continued focus on margin improvement plan.
- Revenue growth going ahead will be a combination of growth in volume and prices along with a better product mix.

Other key highlights

- Indian business is performing well for EPL and is not seeing any signs of recessions.
- EPLL continues its focus on (i) margin improvement through mix and cost efficiency and (ii) efficient capital allocation.
- Excluding the set up cost of the new Brazil plant, EBITDA margins stood at ~16.6%, while EBITDA grew 13.2% on a YoY basis.
- Tax provisions made for the quarter was a result of various assessment order received by the company during the quarter.
- Effective Tax Rate is expected to be around ~26-27% for FY23.
- EPL is among the leadership band in CDP rating for Climate change. Its rating upgraded to A- from B last year. This is the best rating in the packaging industry.
- The management is actively looking for a strategic M&A opportunity. Inorganic growth is the part of the company's growth strategy.

Valuation and view

- We expect EPLL's earnings momentum to improve, led by: a) growing revenue contribution from B&C and the Pharma segment, b) a gradual shift to laminated tubes from aluminum tubes and rigid packaging, c) customer additions across geographies as well as greater cross-selling opportunities, d) its entry into the Brazil market, and e) a focus on sustainability, which will propel double-digit profitable growth.
- With the softening of raw material prices and aggressive price hikes in recent months, we expect a sequential recovery in margin witnessed in 3QFY23 to continue going forward.
- We expect a revenue/EBITDA/adjusted PAT CAGR of 12%/20%/34%, respectively, over FY23-25E.
- Factoring in muted 3QFY23 earnings, we lower our earnings estimates for FY23/FY24/FY25 by 1%/8%/5%, respectively. We value the stock at 19x Dec'24 EPS to arrive at our TP of INR210. We reiterate our Buy rating on the stock.

	Old				New		Change			
(INRm)	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E	
Revenue	37,352	43,390	46,957	36,958	42,763	46,129	-1%	-1%	-2%	
EBITDA	6,063	7,848	8,785	5,885	7,478	8,507	-3%	-5%	-3%	
Adj. PAT	2,032	3,167	3,762	2,002	2,909	3,581	-1%	-8%	-5%	

Exhibit 9: Change in our estimates

Source: Company, MOFSL

Financials and valuations

Consolidated - Income Statement									(INR m)
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Total Income from Operations	23,023	24,239	27,069	27,614	30,916	34,328	36,958	42,763	46,129
Change (%)	8.2	5.3	11.7	2.0	12.0	11.0	7.7	15.7	7.9
Raw material cost	10,079	10,366	11,648	11,581	12,934	15,176	16,455	18,816	19,835
Employees Cost	4,052	4,338	5,006	5,311	6,064	6,500	6,889	7,697	8,211
Other Expenses	4,673	4,886	5,424	5,147	5,807	6,891	7,729	8,772	9,576
Total Expenditure	18,804	19,590	22,078	22,039	24,805	28,567	31,073	35,285	37,622
% of Sales	81.7	80.8	81.6	79.8	80.2	83.2	84.1	82.5	81.6
EBITDA	4,219	4,649	4,991	5,575	6,111	5,761	5,885	7,478	8,507
Margin (%)	18.3	19.2	18.4	20.2	19.8	16.8	15.9	17.5	18.4
Depreciation	1,415	1,671	1,861	2,298	2,346	2,514	2,735	2,977	3,257
EBIT	2,804	2,978	3,130	3,277	3,765	3,247	3,150	4,501	5,250
Int. and Finance Charges	581	550	613	556	429	403	653	607	434
Other Income	353	264	285	133	145	120	193	205	217
PBT bef. EO Exp.	2,576	2,691	2,802	2,854	3,481	2,964	2,690	4,099	5,032
EO Items	157	-50	31	-94	-161	0	-11	0	0
PBT after EO Exp.	2,732	2,642	2,833	2,760	3,320	2,964	2,679	4,099	5,032
Total Tax	787	889	932	638	868	675	613	1,107	1,359
Tax Rate (%)	28.8	33.7	32.9	23.1	26.1	22.8	22.9	27.0	27.0
Profit/loss from associates	10.5	-10.4	53.2	-6.0	-9.0	-76	-38	-42	-46
Minority Interest	53	26	29	43	52	69	37	41	46
Reported PAT	1,903	1,716	1,925	2,073	2,391	2,144	1,991	2,909	3,581
Adjusted PAT	1,747	1,766	1,895	2,167	2,552	2,144	2,002	2,909	3,581
Change (%)	4.1	1.1	7.3	14.4	17.8	-16.0	-6.6	45.3	23.1
Margin (%)	7.6	7.3	7.0	7.8	8.3	6.2	5.4	6.8	7.8
Consolidated - Balance Sheet									(INR M)
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Equity Share Capital	314	315	631	631	631	632	632	632	632
Total Reserves	10,076	12,191	13,249	14,695	16,350	17,613	18,182	19,511	21,513
Net Worth	10,390	12,506	13,880	15,326	16,981	18,245	18,814	20,143	22,145
Minority Interest	57	43	52	86	333	336	336	336	336
Total Loans	7,924	7,299	6,313	6,432	5,536	6,572	6,572	5,572	3,572
Deferred Tax Liabilities	317	357	510	475	543	619	619	619	619
Capital Employed	18,688	20,204	20,754	22,319	23,393	25,772	26,341	26,670	26,672
Gross Block	15,637	17,691	20,495	22,434	25,500	27,236	29,536	33,136	35,436
Less: Accum. Deprn.	3,984	5,992	7,564	9,862	12,208	14,722	17,457	20,433	23,691
Net Fixed Assets	11,652	11,699	12,931	12,572	13,292	12,514	1 2,07 9	12,702	11,745
Goodwill on Consolidation	142	142	142	142	1,159	1,159	1,159	1,159	1,159
Capital WIP	193	417	413	352	273	1,466	2,766	1,466	1,466
Total Investments	153	131	168	160	149	72	72	72	72
Current Investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Curr. Assets, Loans&Adv.	10,254	12,032	11,547	14,833	15,241	17,715	18,044	20,294	21,754
Inventory	2,460	2,864	3,234	3,692	4,149	5,941	6,215	6,767	6,906
Account Receivables	3,766	4,590	4,934	4,903	5,891	6,367	6,885	7,967	8,594
Cash and Bank Balance	1,028	1,735	1,344	3,715	2,414	1,927	1,433	1,711	2,103
Loans and Advances	3,000	2,843	2,035	2,523	2,787	3,480	3,511	3,849	4,152
Curr. Liability & Prov.	3,707	4,217	4,447	5,740	6,721	7,154	7,779	9,023	9,524
Account Payables	1,473	1,884	2,065	3,538	4,222	4,547	4,938	5,607	5,978
Other Current Liabilities	1,834	2,037	2,113	1,942	2,163	2,268	2,476	2,993	3,091
Provisions	400	295	269	260	336	339	365	422	456
Net Current Assets	6,547	7,815	7,100	9,093	8,520	10,561	10,265	11,271	12,230
Misc Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Financials and valuations

Ratios									
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Basic (INR)									
EPS	5.5	5.6	6.0	6.9	8.1	6.8	6.3	9.2	11.3
Cash EPS	10.0	10.9	11.9	14.1	15.5	14.7	15.0	18.6	21.6
BV/Share	32.9	39.6	43.9	48.5	53.7	57.7	59.5	63.7	70.1
DPS	1.1	1.2	1.2	3.3	4.1	4.3	4.5	5.0	5.0
Payout (%)	21.8	26.4	23.6	56.7	54.2	63.4	71.4	54.3	44.1
Valuation (x)									
P/E	27.5	27.2	25.3	22.2	18.8	22.4	24.0	16.5	13.4
Cash P/E	15.2	14.0	12.8	10.8	9.8	10.3	10.1	8.2	7.0
P/BV	4.6	3.8	3.5	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.2
EV/Sales	2.4	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1
EV/EBITDA	13.0	11.5	10.6	9.1	8.4	9.2	9.1	7.0	5.9
Dividend Yield (%)	0.7	0.8	0.8	2.2	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.3
FCF per share	5.1	6.5	1.8	9.0	5.8	1.4	4.5	10.4	13.4
Return Ratios (%)									
RoE	17.4	15.4	14.4	14.8	15.8	12.2	10.8	14.9	16.9
RoCE	12.9	11.3	11.5	12.5	13.0	11.0	10.3	13.4	15.5
RoIC	12.2	11.2	11.4	13.6	14.4	11.7	10.9	14.4	16.5
Working Capital Ratios									
Fixed Asset Turnover (x)	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Asset Turnover (x)	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7
Inventory (Days)	39	43	44	49	49	63	61	58	55
Debtor (Days)	60	69	67	65	70	68	68	68	68
Creditor (Days)	23	28	28	47	50	48	49	48	47
Leverage Ratio (x)									
Current Ratio	2.8	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.3
Interest Cover Ratio	4.8	5.4	5.1	5.9	8.8	8.1	4.8	7.4	12.1
Net Debt/Equity	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
Consolidated - Cash Flow Statement									(INR M)
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
OP/(Loss) before Tax	2,743	2,631	2,886	2,854	3,311	2,888	2,690	4,099	5,032
Depreciation	1,415	1,671	1,861	2,298	2,346	2,514	2,735	2,977	3,257
Interest & Finance Charges	284	277	380	423	381	355	460	402	218
Direct Taxes Paid	-764	-816	-901	-638	-866	-776	-613	-1,107	-1,359
(Inc)/Dec in WC	494	-488	-404	-127	-380	-2,217	-198	-728	-567
CF from Operations	4,172	3,276	3,821	4,811	4,792	2,764	5,074	5,644	6,581
Others	-485	159	-257	-100	432	353	-49	-42	-46
CF from Operating incl EO	3,687	3,435	3,564	4,711	5,224	3,117	5,025	5,602	6,535
(Inc)/Dec in FA	-2,069	-1,375	-3,003	-1,878	-3,396	-2,668	-3,600	-2,300	-2,300
Free Cash Flow	1,618	2,060	561	2,833	1,828	449	1,425	3,302	4,235
(Pur)/Sale of Investments	98	1	2	8	5	4	0	0	0
Others	-769	184	1,122	680	586	22	193	205	217
CF from Investments	-2,740	-1,189	-1,879	-1,190	-2,805	-2,642	-3,407	-2,095	-2,083
Issue of Shares	7	510	53	0	7	50	0	0	0
Inc/(Dec) in Debt	546	-1,199	-1,028	119	-1,219	1,031	0	-1,000	-2,000
Interest Paid	-392	-372	-485	-556	-321	-278	-653	-607	-434
Dividend Paid	-414	-478	-478	-1,176	-1,341	-1,380	-1,422	-1,580	-1,580
Others	-508	-1	-138	469	-317	-377	-37	-41	-46
CF from Fin. Activity	-762	-1,539	-2,076	-1,143	-3,191	-954	-2,112	-3,229	-4,061
Inc/Dec of Cash	184	706	-391	2,377	-772	-479	-494	278	391
Opening Balance	844	1,028	1,735	1,344	3,116	2,414	1,927	1,433	1,711
Closing Balance	1,028	1,735	1,344	3,715	2,414	1,927	1,433	1,711	2,103

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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