

# Axis Annual Analysis 2023



Dalmia Bharat Limited

## Becoming a Pan-India Player Through Aggressive Capacity Expansion

### Summary

Dalmia Bharat Limited (DBL) –is one of the established cement players in India. The company expanded its cement capacity from 35.9 MTPA to 38.6 MTPA. In Apr'23, the company also started operations at a second cement line in Bokaro, Jharkhand, with a capacity of 2.5 MTPA. It also signed the definitive agreement for the acquisition of the strategically located cement assets of Jaiprakash Associates Limited, (9.4 mtpa Grinding and 6.7 mtpa Clinker capacity at an enterprise value of Rs5,670 Cr). This will enable the company to enter the lucrative growth market of central India.

DBL aims to expand its total cement grinding capacity from the current 41 MTPA to 46 MTPA, excluding JP Assets by FY24. In the medium term, the company aims to reach a capacity of 75 mtpa by FY27. Its long-term goal is to reach 110-130 mtpa capacity by FY30-31 to capture further growth opportunities and become a pan-India player.

The company undertook Capex of Rs 2,814 Cr during the year. In FY23, its gross debt increased by Rs 623 Cr to Rs 3,763 Cr, up 19.8% owing to term loans it availed to fund ongoing capacity expansion projects. Consequently, its Net Debt/Equity increased to 0.04 in FY23 from (0.09) in FY22.

### Key Highlights

- Encouraging financial performance:** The company's revenue in FY23 increased by a healthy 20% YoY to Rs 13,540 Cr. Its sales volume, too, experienced robust growth of 15% during the year. The company's average selling price (net of discount and taxes) in FY23 increased by 3.7% YoY.
- EBITDA margins got impacted due to high costs:** During FY23, the Group recorded EBITDA of Rs 2,316 Cr (vs. Rs 2,426 Cr in the previous year), registering a decline of 4.5% over FY22. This was primarily on account of higher fuel prices which adversely impacted the variable cost of production.
- Continued focus on producing and promoting blended cement:** In line with its commitment to environmental sustainability, the company continued to focus on producing and promoting blended cement (84% of sales). It aims to produce 100% blended cement by FY26 and achieve a 100% transition to renewable energy by 2030.

**Key Competitive Strengths:** a) The 4<sup>th</sup> largest cement producer in India; b) Largest producer of slag and specialty cement in India; c) Robust sales and distribution network; d) Improving financial position; e) Experienced and competent management bandwidth, and f) Diverse product portfolio for Retail and Institutional clients.

**Strategies Implemented:** a) Efficient use of capital through judicious allocation to technology-led investments and branding; b) Capacity expansion to capitalize on growing markets; c) Focus on selling blended Cement; d) Securing long-term raw material supply (including limestone); e) Proactively investing in building competent human capital

**Growth Drivers:** a) Rural Housing; b) Affordable Housing; c) The government's keen focus on infrastructure development including roads, railways, highways, metros, airports, irrigation, and water projects; d) Real estate growth e) Increase in private Capex

**Key focus areas moving forward:** a) To become a pan-India cement company; b) Establish a significant presence in every market in its operating region; c) Grow capacity to 130 MTPA by 2030; d) Emerge as one of the most profitable and environment-friendly companies in India; e) Maintain a robust balance sheet; f) Build a great organizational culture and robust value system.

**Outlook & Recommendation:** The company is working to reach a cement grinding capacity of 110-130 mtpa by FY30-31 to become a pan-India player. The recent signing of a definitive agreement to acquire JP assets (acquisition underway) will allow the company to cater to the high-growth market of central India. Apart from the ongoing expansion plan, the company has also announced Capex to add capacity to its existing units in North East India (3.6 mtpa Clinker and 2.4 mtpa Grinding Unit) to capture the rising cement demand in the region. The government's keen focus on infrastructure, low-cost affordable housing, and increasing real estate demand will keep cement demand at an elevated level moving ahead. Given this, we expect the company to grow its Volume/Revenue/EBITDA/APAT at CAGR of 13%/15%/17%/26% over FY22-FY25E. The stock is currently trading at 12x and 10x FY24E/FY25E EV/EBITDA. We value the company at 11x FY25E EV/EBITDA to arrive at a TP of Rs 2,230/share, implying an upside potential of 8% from the CMP. We hence change our rating from **BUY** to **HOLD**.

### Key Financials (Consolidated)

| (RsCr)        | FY23   | FY24E  | FY25E  |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Net Sales     | 13,540 | 15,257 | 16,955 |
| EBITDA        | 2,316  | 3,262  | 3,839  |
| Net Profit    | 1,183  | 1,347  | 1,619  |
| EPS (Rs)      | 55     | 72     | 86     |
| PER (x)       | 28     | 29     | 24     |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 12.6   | 12.7   | 10.7   |
| P/BV (x)      | 1.8    | 2.4    | 2.2    |
| ROE (%)       | 7%     | 8%     | 9%     |

Source: Company, Axis Research

(CMP as of 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023)

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| CMP (Rs)                   | 2058      |
| Upside /Downside (%)       | 8         |
| High/Low (Rs)              | 2289/1415 |
| Market cap (Cr)            | 39517     |
| Avg. daily vol. (6m) Shrs. | 139       |
| No. of shares (Cr)         | 18.7      |

### Shareholding (%)

|              | Sep-22 | Dec-22 | Mar-23 |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Promoter     | 56     | 56     | 56     |
| FII's        | 12.3   | 12.0   | 13.0   |
| MFs / UTI    | 6.2    | 6.2    | 6.7    |
| Banks / FI's | 0.1    | 0.06   | 0.06   |
| Others       | 25.5   | 25.6   | 24.6   |

### Financial & Valuations

| Y/E Mar (RsCr) | FY23   | FY24E  | FY25E  |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Net Sales      | 13,540 | 15,257 | 16,955 |
| EBITDA         | 2,316  | 3,262  | 3,839  |
| Net Profit     | 1,183  | 1,347  | 1,619  |
| EPS (Rs)       | 55     | 72     | 86     |
| PER (x)        | 28     | 29     | 24     |
| EV/EBITDA (x)  | 12.6   | 12     | 10     |
| P/BV (x)       | 1.8    | 2.4    | 2.2    |
| ROE (%)        | 7%     | 8%     | 9%     |

### Change in Estimates (%)

| Y/E Mar | FY24E | FY25E |
|---------|-------|-------|
| Sales   | 0%    | 1%    |
| EBITDA  | -1%   | 3%    |
| PAT     | -3%   | -3%   |

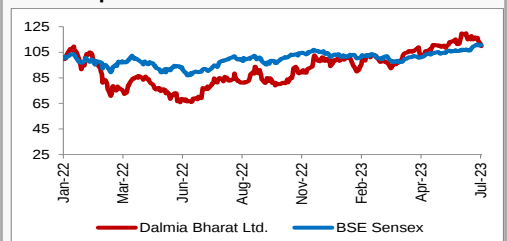
### ESG disclosure Score\*\*

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Environmental Disclosure Score    | 64        |
| Social Disclosure Score           | 36        |
| Governance Disclosure Score       | 70        |
| <b>Total ESG Disclosure Score</b> | <b>57</b> |
| <b>Sector Average</b>             | <b>47</b> |

Source: Bloomberg, Scale: 0.1-100

\*\*Note: This score measures the amount of ESG data a company reports publicly and does not measure the company's performance on any data point. All scores are based on 2022 disclosures, Sector average is for NSE500 companies

### Relative performance



Source: Ace Equity, Axis Securities

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## Company Overview

Dalmia Bharat Limited (DBL) started its journey in 1939 and emerged as one of the fastest-growing players in the Indian cement sector. It commands a 5% share of all of India's capacity in the areas where it operates. DBL has a total cement production capacity of 38.6 MTPA, a clinker capacity of 21.7 MTPA, and a power generation capacity of 364 MW as of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023. The company's operations span 14 locations in India through its 9 integrated plants and 5 grinding Units and a robust network of over 40,000 channel partners spread across the country. DBL is the pioneer in the production of not only slag cement but also specialty cement in India. The company has more than doubled its capacity in the last 10 years through both organic and inorganic routes to 38.6 MTPA in FY23 from 9 MTPA in FY14. Today, it stands as the 4<sup>th</sup> largest cement-producing company in India.

## Product & Brand Portfolio

DBL's brand portfolio comprises an ordinary and premium range of products assuring superior quality for general as well as for specialized construction and environments. The company produces all three cement variants namely OPC, PPC, and PSC. Apart from these, it also produces PCC (Portland Composite cement). At present, it sells cement under two categories – Retail and Institutional, comprising 6 brands namely Dalmia DSP, Dalmia Cement, Konark Cement, Dalmia Infracore, Dalmia Infracore, and Dalmia Instapro.

## FY23 Performance Round-up

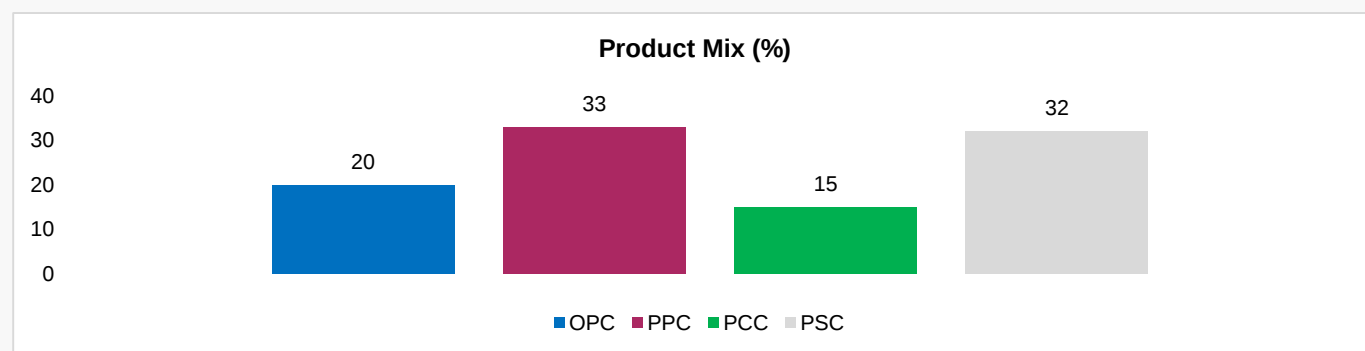
- **Revenue growth:** For FY23, the company's revenue increased 20% YoY to reach Rs 13,540Cr. The company's sales volume experienced robust growth of 15%, positioning it as the second-leading company within the industry in India. The average selling price (net of discount and taxes) increased by 3.7% in FY23 over FY22.
- **EBITDA margins impacted by high cost:** During FY23, the Group recorded EBITDA of Rs 2,316 Cr (vs. Rs 2,426 Cr in the previous year), registering a decline of 4.5% YoY. This is primarily on account of higher fuel prices adversely impacting the variable cost of production.
- **Capital and funding:** Total equity during the year marginally decreased by 2.4% while total capital employed marginally increased by 1.2%. Gross debt increased by Rs 623 Cr to Rs 3,763 Cr as of March 31, 2023, up 19.8% owing to availing term loans to fund the capital expenditure for ongoing capacity expansion projects. The company's Net Debt/Equity for FY23 stood at 0.04 from (0.09) reported in FY22.
- **Increase in interest expense:** Finance cost increased by Rs 32 Cr to Rs 234 Cr, mainly due to an increase in gross debt during the year as well as due to a higher weighted average cost of total borrowings which increased from 5.6% per annum in FY22 to 6.9% per annum in FY23 on account of an increase in the repo rate.
- **Capex:** The company spent Rs 2,814 Cr towards Capex during the year under review.
- **Dividend:** During the year, the company declared Rs 9/share as a dividend for its shareholders.
- **Other Income:** Other income was reduced by Rs 22 Cr to Rs 138 Cr mainly attributed to lower dividend income and write-back of liabilities no longer required.
- **Divestment of Dalmia Bharat Refractories Limited:** The company has sold off its entire stake in Dalmia Bharat Refractories Limited to Sarvapriya Healthcare Solutions Private Limited, a promoter group company for a total consideration of Rs 800 Cr on April 25, 2023.

## Key Subsidiary Performance Analysis

| Particulars (Rs Cr)                  | FY22  | FY23  | Change | Comment/Analysis                                           |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                      |       |       |        |                                                            |
| Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited       | 9760  | 12187 | 25%    | Higher owing to increased revenue and price realization.   |
| Calcolm Cement India Limited         | 1158  | 1266  | 9%     | Higher owing to increased revenue and price realization.   |
| Alsthom Industries Limited           | 261   | 336   | 29%    | Higher owing to increase in revenue and price realization. |
| Vinay Cement Limited                 | 24    | 13    | -46%   |                                                            |
| <b>Net Worth</b>                     |       |       |        |                                                            |
| Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited       | 11343 | 12094 | 7%     | NW increased owing to higher profits during the year       |
| Dalmia Power Limited                 | 1511  | 1166  | -23%   |                                                            |
| Calcolm Cement India Limited         | 366   | 478   | 31%    | NW increased owing to higher profits during the year.      |
| Alsthom Industries Limited           | 100   | 148   | 48%    | NW increased owing to higher profits during the year.      |
| Dalmia Bharat Green Vision Limited   | 97    | 346   | 257%   | Capital infusion                                           |
| <b>PAT</b>                           |       |       |        |                                                            |
| Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited       | 665   | 421   | -37%   | Lower owing to higher costs of operation.                  |
| Dalmia Power Limited                 | 131   | 54    | -59%   |                                                            |
| Calcolm Cement India Limited         | 96    | 228   | 137%   | Higher owing to higher profits during the year.            |
| Alsthom Industries Limited           | 22    | 52    | 136%   | Higher owing to higher profit during the year.             |
| Vinay Cement Limited                 | 29    | 8     | -72%   |                                                            |
| Ascension Mercantile Private Limited | 0     | (14)  | -14%   |                                                            |

Source: Company; Axis Securities

### Exhibit 1: Product Mix



Source: Company, Axis Securities

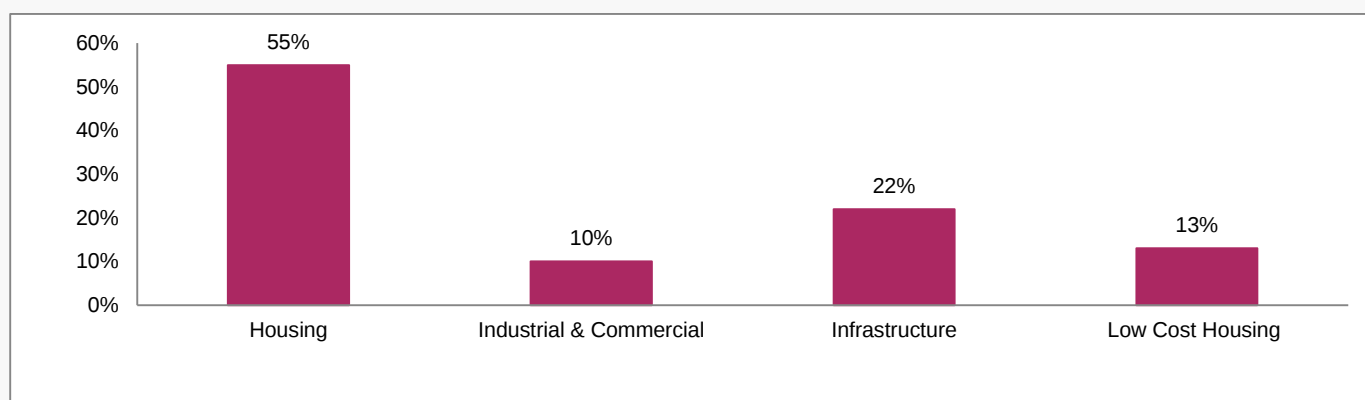
### Cost Optimization Measures

- **Power/Fuel Cost:** In FY23, the company's Power & Fuel costs increased by 24% to Rs 1,432/tonne against Rs 1,153/tonne in FY22. The company has implemented several cost optimisation measures such as using low-cost additives like red mud in clinker manufacturing, using green fuel to reduce fossil fuel dependency (TSR>15%), utilizing the lowest coal including local coal in NE plants, maximising the usage of chemical gypsum and wet or conditioned fly ash, and securing long-term contracts for fly ash and slag.
- **Freight/Forwarding Cost:** Freight & forwarding cost per tonne was higher by 3% at Rs 1,090/tonne against Rs 1,057/tonne in FY22 on account of the increase in fuel prices. The company enforced stock transfer through higher-sized vehicles to improve efficiency and institutionalized reverse auctions across plants. The company has an extensive fleet of 8000+ trucks serving 200+ districts. With 300+ warehouses, there is a daily truck movement of 2,300+ vehicles.
- **Raw Material Cost:** The cost of raw materials consumed increased by 10% in FY23 owing to higher costs. To reduce the risks associated with the supply chain of raw materials, the company has strategically placed captive mines and plants for the smooth supply of raw materials.

## Key Growth Drivers

- Infrastructure push by the government:** The Government of India has been consistently investing in infrastructure to drive the country's development agenda. It has earmarked Rs 10 Tn as capital expenditure for Budget 2023- 24, an increase of 33% above FY23 budget estimates and 37% above revised estimates of FY22. The consistent rise in capital spending is a positive indicator for cement consumption in the coming years. Furthermore, initiatives like National Infrastructure Pipeline and PM GatiShakti are likely to drive the construction activities in the country, fuelling more demand for cement.
- Housing rebound:** The country's housing sector experienced a prolonged cycle of slowdown in the pre-COVID period, resulting in high inventories and lower launches from the real estate sector. However, in the post-pandemic era, the sector rebounded, which was facilitated by increased preference towards home ownership, a favourable interest rate regime, and registration and stamp duty benefits offered by several state governments across the country. Furthermore, the government's increased outlay towards 'Housing for All' provided a fillip to housing demand in the country. The Union Budget 2023-24 outlined an investment of Rs54,487 Cr for PMAY - Grameen and Rs25,103 Cr for PMAY – Urban, registering a cumulative 66% growth over the previous year
- Industrialization:** The rapid pace of industrialization in India is expected to play a key role in driving the growth of the cement industry. The growth of industries leads to demand for the construction of factories, warehouses and other infrastructure. With the growth of manufacturing, infrastructure, and transportation sectors, there has been a significant increase in the demand for cement.
- Commercial RealEstate:** The growth of the construction industry in India, particularly in the commercial sector, has led to an increased demand for cement. With a growing economy and increasing urbanisation, demand for commercial buildings such as offices, malls, hotels, and hospitals has surged and this trend will keep cement demand at an elevated level.

**Exhibit 2: Cement consumption trend – segment-wise: Housing remains the largest cement consumer**



Source: Company, Axis Securities

## Key Operational Activities During the Year

**Growth and expansion:** The company aims to expand into newer avenues of growth with a wide range of products while establishing a stronger presence in the existing market and emerging as a pan-India pure-play cement company. From an installed manufacturing capacity of 38.6 MTPA at the end of FY23, it targets to achieve a manufacturing capacity of 75 MTPA by FY27 and 110-130 MTPA by FY31 through a mix of greenfield, brownfield, and inorganic growth initiatives. Its consistent revenue growth without compromising on margins and profitability speaks volumes about its prudent capital deployment and robust financials.

In Apr'23, the company also started operations at its second cement line in Bokaro (Jharkhand), with a capacity of 2.5 MTPA. The company also signed the definitive agreement for the acquisition of strategic cement assets of Jaiprakash Associates Limited, which will enable it to enter the lucrative growth market of central India.

**Consumption of renewable energy:** The company won a bid for Mandla Coal North Mine to improve on captive coal consumption. The company added 103 MW of renewable energy capacity during the year and achieved the highest blending ratio during FY22-23. In its bid to continuously explore the use of sustainable alternatives for its process inputs, the company successfully increased its renewable energy capacity by 2.5x to 166 MW YoY.

**Debt Levels:** Net debt to EBITDA remained significantly lower than the stated target of 2x despite an 8% increase in capacity due to disciplined fund allocation as per the laid-out capital allocation framework and treasury policy.

**Investment in innovation and technology in natural capital:** The company has invested in low and zero-carbon technologies that enhance resources and energy efficiency. Its aim is to increase the proportion of environment-friendly blended cement in its product mix to 80%. The company is India's largest producer of Portland Slag Cement (PSC), which is the most sustainable and lowest carbon footprint cement available at an industrial scale.

## Sales & Distribution

- **Marketing and Branding:** During the year, the company undertook numerous initiatives to engage with its customers and strengthen its brand visibility across markets. It also undertook a flagship campaign Shubh Shubh Banao – focused on curating emotional engagement to depict the feeling of 'auspicious' for its channel partners. This one-of-a-kind activation campaign has spread positive word of mouth in the market and successfully touched 3,000+ stakeholders in 66 cities.

## Supply Chain & Logistics

- **Green Supply chain initiatives:** DBL is implementing a "green" supply chain initiative by deploying the nation's first fleet of LNG trucks in partnership with GreenLine Logistics. It has ordered 35 LNG trucks for its Chandrapur Plant in Maharashtra and an additional 25 trucks will be deployed in Tamil Nadu in Apr'23. By adding LNG and EV trucks, the company aims to replace 10% of its current fleet of 3,000 vehicles with LNG trucks by the end of FY24. This will help it reduce transportation fleet emissions. GreenLine Logistics' LNG trucks reduce CO2 emissions by about 28% and lower other harmful emissions by up to 100%, making it a more environmentally-friendly option.
- **Logistic optimization efforts:** The company aims to reduce dependency on roadways and increase rail efficiency. It is also inducting pan-India fleet players by bringing in large transporters. Lease-based rakes from railways for the transfer of raw materials from plants. Partner with OEMs to introduce electric vehicles and CNG vehicles. Digitisation to enhance logistics efficiency.
- **Effective freight management:** The company is focusing on achieving efficient freight management across its value chains. It has implemented an effective approach to fleet and asset management, resulting in continuous improvement in efficiency and productivity, reduced costs, and increased employee, and customer satisfaction.

## Key Strategies Moving Forward

### Sustainable Growth

The focus remains on innovation and sustainability. The company is investing in cutting-edge technologies, leveraging digitisation, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. It is also steadfast in its commitment to sustainability, reducing its environmental footprint, promoting circular economy practices and contributing to a greener future.

### Organic & Inorganic capacity expansion

The company's future growth roadmap features a mix of organic and inorganic opportunities with a focus on premium products, raw material security, and renewable energy. A few priorities for FY24 include the timely completion of its ongoing Capex and the successful integration of the Jaypee Cement asset. A rapid increase in installed cement capacity by almost 1.5 times from 26.5 MnT in FY20 to 41.1 MnT at present is a testament to the company's well-directed approach. It aims to become a pure-play pan-India Cement Manufacturing Company by 2031 with a capacity of 110-130 mtpa.

### To achieve a significant presence in every market where Dalmia operates

- Becoming the market leader in the highly attractive East India market
- Strengthening price realization by focusing on the sale of premium cement and deepening its market reach by expanding its distribution network and increasing retail sales.
- Continue to enhance existing brands and introduce new brands as per changing customer needs.

### Maintaining a Strong Balance Sheet with a High standard of corporate governance

- Continued focus on building enhanced transparency and embracing the highest standards of governance
- Developed a formal Capital Allocation Policy and a Treasury Policy
- Released Corporate Governance Guidelines, a Code of Conduct, and Financial Ethics.

## Business Outlook

- Over the past few years, India has focused on strengthening its infrastructure backbone to drive overall growth and development. The Union Budget FY24 raised the allocation for essential infrastructure by 33%, while the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) received a 66% higher outlay. Additionally, there is a record-high outlay allocated for railways for the next 10 years and there are plans to build 50 new airports. Significant public spending on infrastructure has also created an enabling environment for private investors. The real estate sector has been showing strong traction with low inventory levels and the launch of various new projects.
- The cement demand is closely linked to overall economic growth, particularly in the housing and infrastructure sector. Keeping this in view, the government continues to provide thrust to infrastructure creation and development, thereby providing new growth avenues to the cement industry.
- The company strongly believes that despite challenges, the cement sector is poised to deliver robust growth moving forward. This is driven by robust growth anticipated from the individual housing segment, buoyed by the growth in rural income and the government's focus on the affordable housing segment. The government's push towards infrastructure and the boom in the industrial sector demand, driven by increased warehouse requirements for e-commerce and data centres for back offices are expected to further add to cement demand in the country. The demand for cement will remain strong in the years ahead, which bodes well for its strategic objectives to expand its footprint across the country.

## Risks & Mitigation

- **Input cost Risk:** The company is exposed to the risk of inflation and fluctuations in the cost of coal, petcoke, power and other fuels which are market driven.
  - ✓ **Mitigation:** The cement industry is energy-intensive, fluctuations in fuel price are paramount in production cost and hence well-designed plans have been laid down to tackle the input cost risks.
- **Climate Risk:** Climate risk impacts vary across locations, operations, inventory, supply chain, and continuity plans. These exposures significantly influence corporate operations.
  - ✓ **Mitigation:** The company plans to be carbon-negative by FY40, divided into short-term and mid-term goals. It has allocated resources aligned with carbon-negative targets. It has a leadership position in the industry to mitigate future carbon emission liability, and a carbon-negative roadmap is integral to the organisational strategy.
- **Cyber Security:** Loss of valuable information and disruption of business operations
  - ✓ **Mitigation:** The company takes 24/7 cyber security efforts by its IT team, allocates resources to mitigate cyber security risks, and addresses the ongoing challenge of keeping up with advancements and one-on-one battles in cyberspace.
- **Logistic Risk:** This includes managing the infrastructure to cater to growing needs, increased logistics costs, evolving regulatory mandates for zero carbon targets, limited government support towards rail freight requirements of the cement industry, restrictions of heavy vehicle movement during peak hours, and agitations/strikes by transportation unions.
  - ✓ **Mitigation:** The company has adopted measures such as rate contracts with transporters, implementation of a supply chain optimiser tool, conversion of HSD Trucks to CNG/LNG Trucks, launch of e-trucks, utilisation of other company's railway sidings and increased fleet capability among others.
- **Macro-Economic Risk:** Macroeconomic uncertainty results in inflation, supply chain disruption, reduced market demand, higher interest rates, and social unrest.
  - ✓ **Mitigation:** The company is a) Implementing an Enterprise Risk Management system, b) Ensuring an uninterrupted supply chain, c) Timely adjusting the market mix, d) Ensuring efficient financial management
- **Circular Economy:** All waste, including clothing, scrap metal, and outdated electronics is recycled or utilised efficiently, reducing the need for new natural resources.
  - ✓ **Mitigation:** Utilising city waste as an alternative energy source to replace fossil fuel, aiming for 100% green fuel usage by 2035, Striving for a low CO2 footprint and aiming to become a 100% blended cement producer by 2026, Investing in advanced technology, such as the Chlorine bypass duct, to achieve 100% replacement of fossil fuels

## Progress on sustainability

As a socially and environmentally responsible company, DBL consistently adopts sustainable practices. It follows the philosophy of "Clean and Green is profitable and Sustainable" which makes Dalmia cement a powerful and distinctive brand as an environmentally responsible group. Some of the key Sustainability practices and achievements are as follows:

### Climate and energy:

- Scope 1 - 15.20% reduction against the 2019 baseline
- Scope 2 - 17.85% reduction against the 2019 baseline
- The company has achieved a carbon footprint of 463 KgCO<sub>2</sub> /t cementitious material against the baseline of 546 KgCO<sub>2</sub> /t cementitious material
- The company is on the trajectory to achieve the target of being carbon negative by 2040

**Renewable energy:** 29% is the share of non-fossil power consumption out of the total power share.

**Energy productivity:** 54% energy productivity improvement compared to the 2010 baseline. The company is inline with its target of doubling energy productivity.

**Alternative (green) fuels:** 17% Thermal Substitution Rate was achieved this year by replacing fossil fuels with industrial wastes, municipal solid waste, renewable biomass (bamboo/plantation), and hazardous waste.

**Electric vehicles:** The company has purchased 22 heavy-duty electric trucks for the transportation of its raw materials

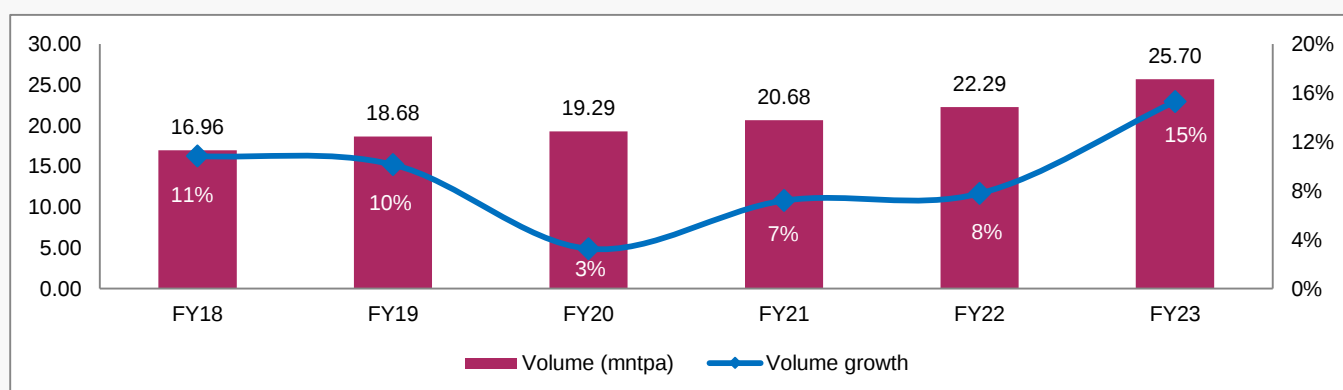
**Blended cement (low-carbon cement):** 84% blended cement share was achieved this year using 10.99 Mn tonnes of alternative raw materials like flyash, slag and others.

### Profitability Analysis (Rs Cr)

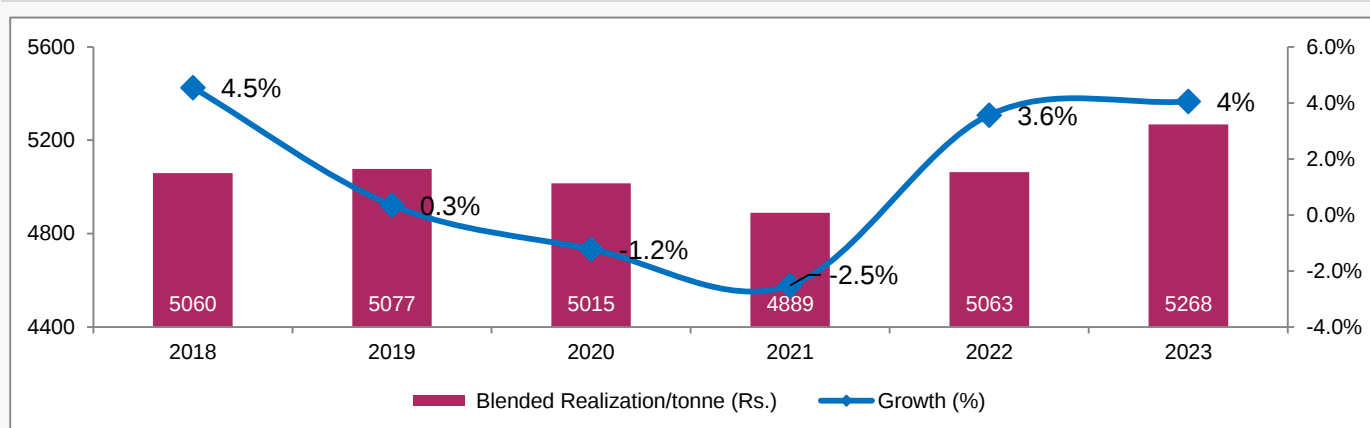
| Particulars          | FY22   | FY23   | Change | Comments/Analysis                                                                          |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sales                | 11,286 | 13,540 | 20%    | Revenue increased on the back of higher volume and selling prices during the Year          |
| Raw Materials/Others | 1,472  | 1,981  | 35%    | Increased owing to higher volume and rise in raw material costs                            |
| Gross Profits        | 4,889  | 5,078  | 4%     | GP growth was led by sales but was impacted by higher costs                                |
| Operating Expenses   | 6,397  | 8,462  | 32%    | Increase in cost due to high fuel prices                                                   |
| Interest             | 197    | 232    | 18%    | Due to the increase in debt levels and repo rates                                          |
| EBIT                 | 1,350  | 1,149  | -15%   | EBIT impacted due to high costs during the year                                            |
| PAT                  | 815    | 1,035  | 27%    | PAT is higher owing to the profit accrued on the divestment of DBRL – an associate company |
| EPS                  | 43.6   | 55.2   | 27%    | EPS in line with PAT                                                                       |

Source: Company; Axis Securities

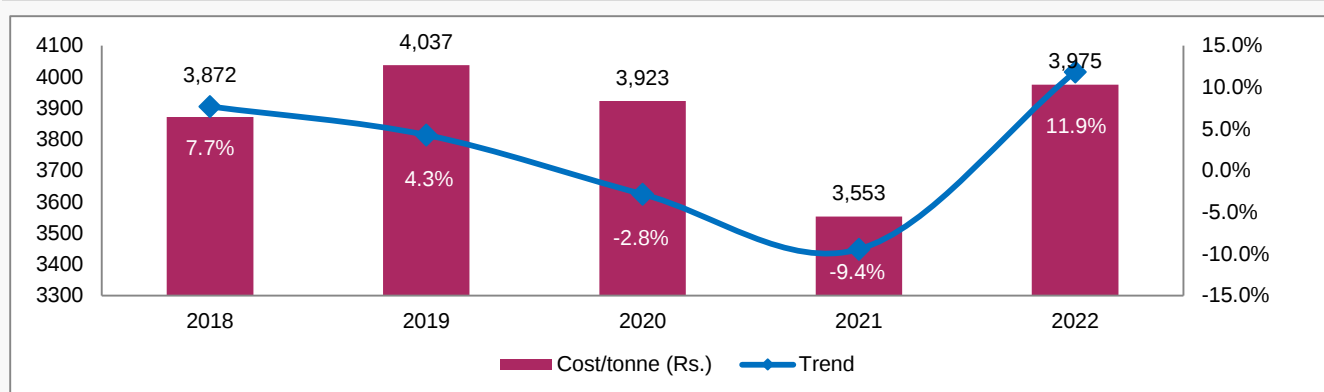
### Exhibit 3: Volume and Growth Trend



Source: Company; Axis Securities

**Exhibit 4: Realization/tonne and Growth Trend**


Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Exhibit 5: Cost/tonne Trend**


Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Growth Indicators (Rs Cr)**

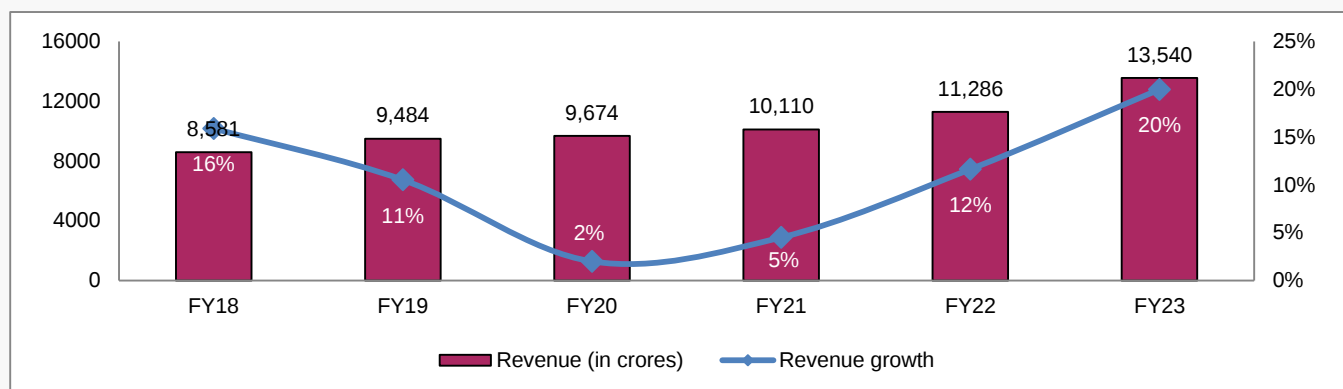
| Particulars | FY22   | FY23   | Change | Comments/Analysis                                                                                          |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Revenue     | 11,286 | 13,540 | 20%    | An increase in volume and selling price lead to revenue growth                                             |
| EBITDA      | 2,426  | 2,316  | -4%    | EBITDA impacted by high operating expenses                                                                 |
| PAT         | 815    | 1,035  | 27%    | PAT is higher owing to the profit accrued on the divestment of DBRL – an associate company                 |
| EPS         | 43.6   | 55.2   | 27%    | EPS in line with PAT                                                                                       |
| Volume      | 22.29  | 25.70  | 15%    | Growth owing to an increase in capacity and better demand in its operating regions of South and East India |

Source: Company; Axis Securities

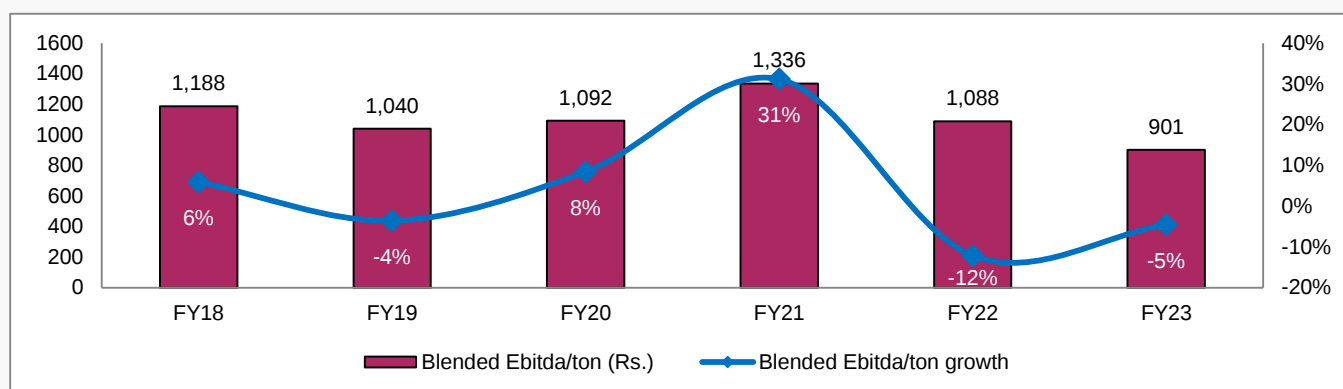
**Profitability Margins**

| Particulars | FY22 | FY23 | Change   | Comments/Analysis                                                               |
|-------------|------|------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GPM         | 43%  | 38%  | -500 bps | Margins impacted by high raw material and fuel costs during the year            |
| EBITDAM     | 22%  | 17%  | -500 bps | Margins impacted by high operating expenses due to rise in fuel costs           |
| PATM        | 7.2% | 7.6% | 40 bps   | Higher owing to profit accrued on the divestment of DBRL, an associate company. |

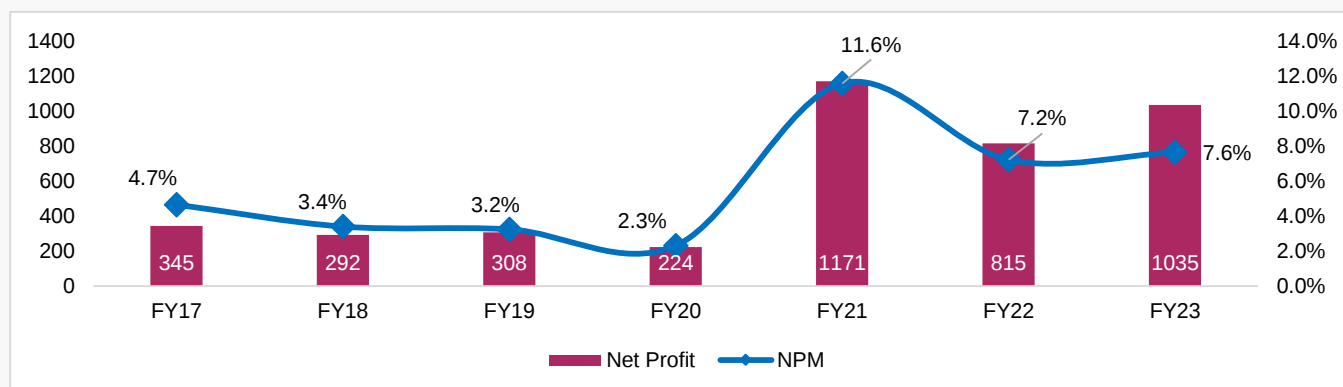
Source: Company; Axis Securities

**Exhibit 6: Revenue and Revenue Growth Trend**


Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Exhibit 7: Blended EBITDA/tonne Trend**


Source: Company, Axis Securities

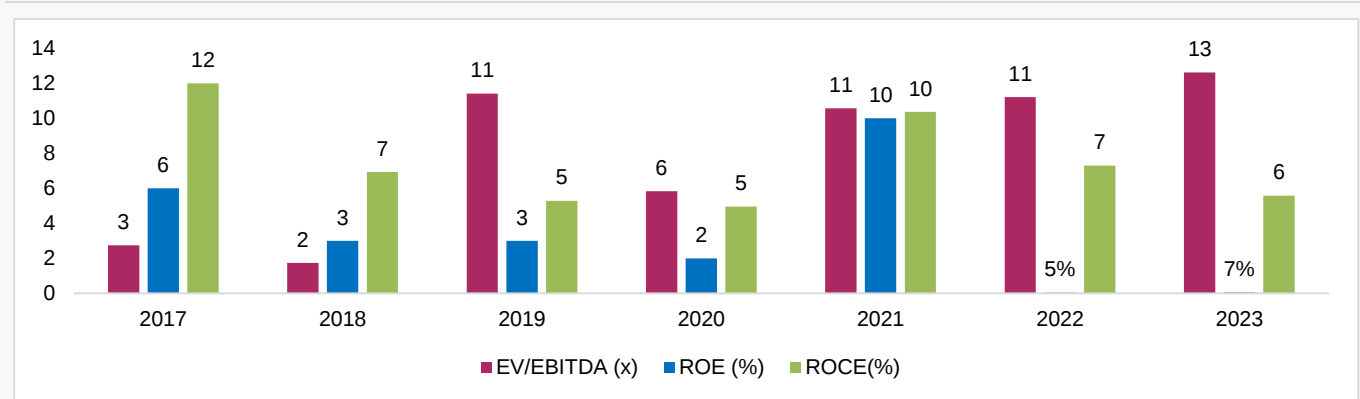
**Exhibit 8: Net Profit and NPM Trend**


Source: Company, Axis Securities

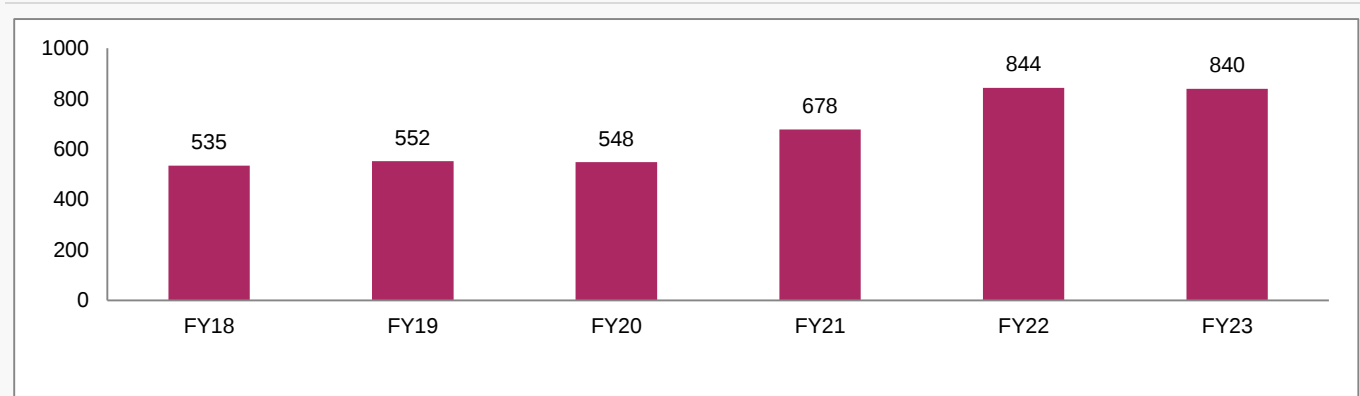
### Financial Ratios

| Particulars     | FY22  | FY23 | Change  | Comments/Analysis                                               |
|-----------------|-------|------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| ROE             | 5.2%  | 6.6% | 140bps  | Higher owing to higher profit during the year                   |
| ROCE            | 7%    | 6%   | -100bps | Impacted owing to lower EBIT during the year                    |
| Asset Turn      | 0.5   | 0.5  | -       | Remained flat owing to new fixed asset addition during the year |
| Net Debt/Equity | -0.09 | 0.04 | -       | Due to the increase in debt levels                              |
| EV/EBITDA       | 11    | 12.5 | -       | EV/EBITDA was higher owing to higher prices and lower EBITDA    |

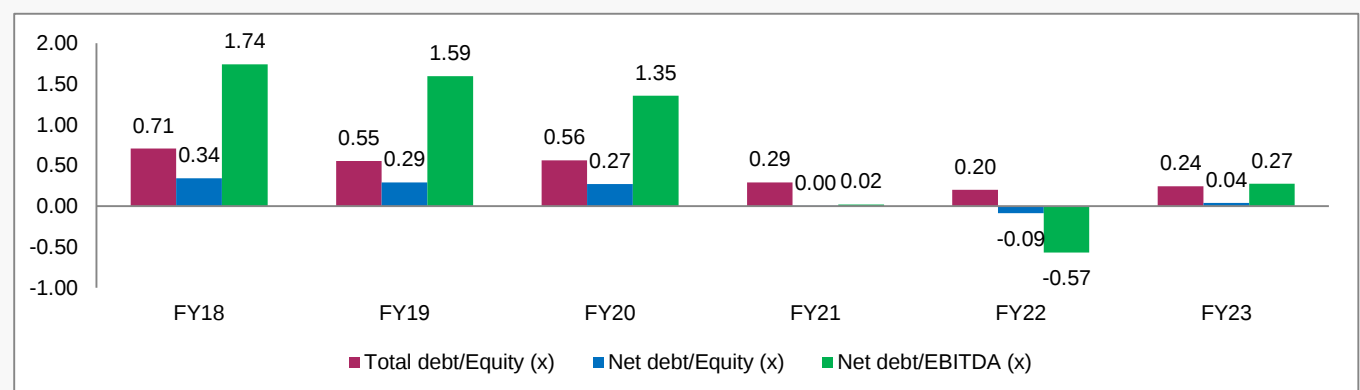
Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Exhibit 9: EV/EBITDA, ROE & ROCE Trend**


Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Exhibit 10: Book Value (Rs)**


Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Exhibit 11: Leverage Ratio**


Source: Company, Axis Securities

## Key Balance Sheet Takeaways

### Working Capital Management

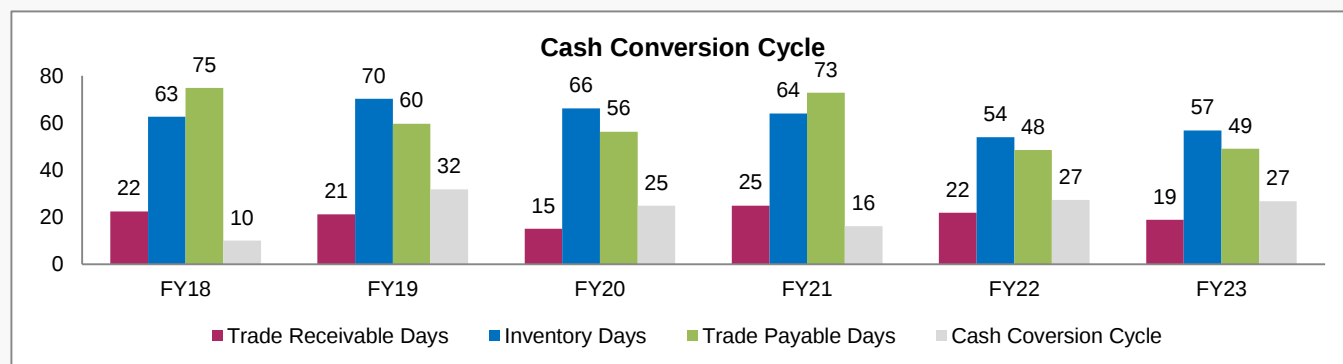
- During the year, the company's cash conversion cycle improved from 28 days in FY22 to 27 days in FY23 due to robust working capital management. This was on account of lower debtors and higher payable days. During the year, OCF to EBITDA improved to 97% from 80% in FY22.
- From FY19-FY23, 67% of the total OCF (Rs 8,197 Cr) was utilized towards the company's Capex program. During this period, cement production capacity increased from 18.86 mtpa to 25.7 mtpa between FY19-23. Overall Capex intensity during this period can be termed medium to high. While CFO remained the major source of funding for the company, it generated an FCF of Rs 4,024 Cr during FY19-FY23.

### Cash Conversion Cycle

| Particulars           | FY22 | FY23 | Change | Comments/Analysis                                                   |
|-----------------------|------|------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Inventory Days        | 54   | 57   | 3      | Increase in days due to increase in inventory of fuel               |
| Trade Receivables     | 22   | 19   | -3     | Receivable days declined due to better monitoring of credit drivers |
| Trade Payables        | 48   | 49   | -1     | Increase in days due to increasing in fuel creditors                |
| Cash Conversion Cycle | 28   | 27   | -1     | Maintained the same level of CCC                                    |

Source: Company; Axis Securities

### Exhibit 12: Cash Conversion Cycle

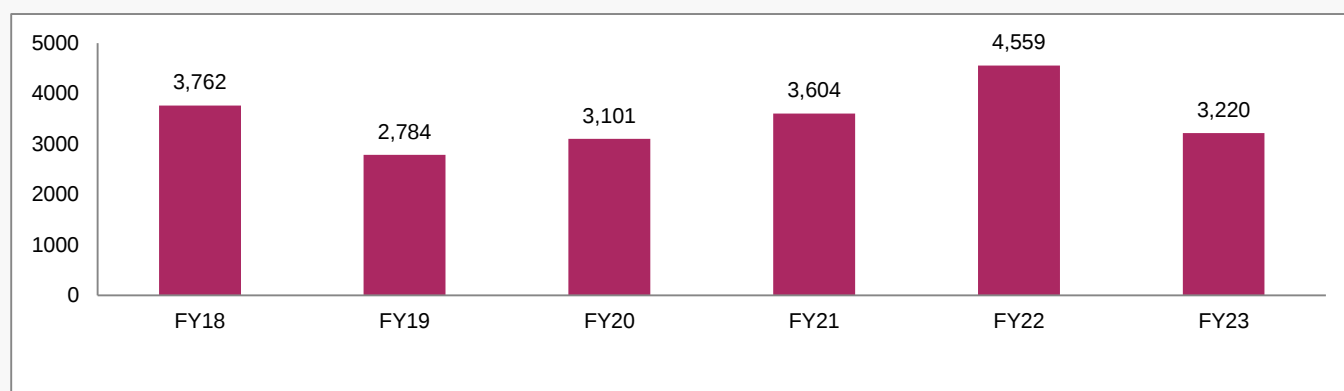


Source: Company, Axis Securities

### Key Balance Sheet Takeaways (Cont...)

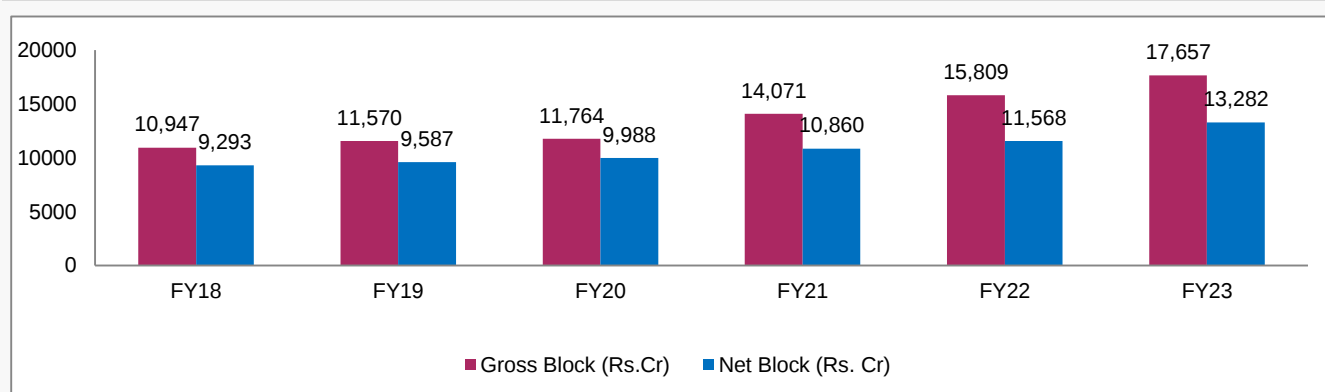
- **Debt Levels:** The company increased its long-term debt by 21% from Rs 3,176 Cr to Rs 3,855Cr as it availed term loans to fund the capital expenditure for ongoing capacity expansion projects. The Net Debt/EBITDA stood at 0.27x during the year.
- **Fixed Capital Formation:** Gross fixed capital formation improved from Rs14,944 Cr in FY22 to Rs 16,467 Cr in FY23, an improvement of 10% as the company is in the process of expanding its existing cement production capacity.
- **Capex plans:** The company spent Rs 2,814 Cr towards Capex during FY23. From an installed manufacturing capacity of 38.6 MTPA at the end of FY23, it targets to achieve 75 MTPA by FY27 and 110-130 MTPA by FY31 through a mix of greenfield, brownfield and inorganic growth initiatives.
- **Cash and liquidity position:** The company's liquidity position has declined compared to the last year with total cash/cash equivalent standing at Rs 3,220 Cr against Rs 4,559 Cr, a decrease of 29% owing to lower profit.

**Exhibit 13: Cash & Cash Equivalent (Rs Cr)**



Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Exhibit 14: Gross & Net Block**



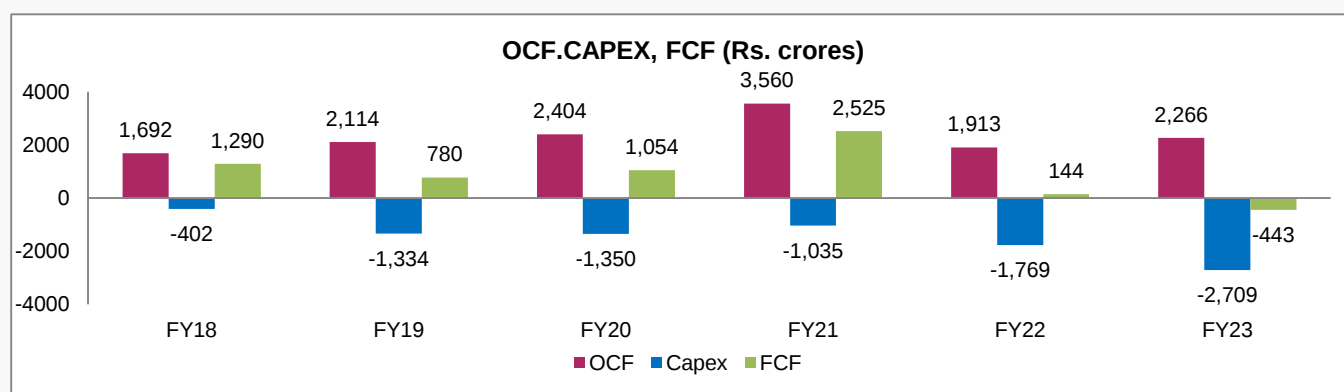
Source: Company, Axis Securities

## Key Cash Flow Takeaways

| Particulars (Rs Cr)         | FY22   | FY23   | Change | Comments/Analysis                                                                      |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PBT                         | 1,162  | 1,321  | 20%    | Higher owing to profit accrued on the divestment of DBRL, an associate company.        |
| Non-cash expenses           | -157   | -95    | 39%    |                                                                                        |
| Depreciation                | 1,237  | 1,305  | 5%     | Depreciation is as per the depreciation policy of the company                          |
| Finance Cost                | 193    | 231    | 20%    | Due to an increase in debt levels as well as repo rates                                |
| Working Capital Adjustments | -515   | -77    | -85%   | Reduced owing to better management of working capital                                  |
| CFO                         | 1,937  | 2,252  | 16%    | Higher owing to an increase in sales and the divestment of DBRL, an associate company. |
| CFI                         | -1,043 | -2,326 | -122%  | Due to the increase in Capex                                                           |
| CFF                         | -942   | 168    | NA     | Increase in borrowings to fund the Capex                                               |
| Capex                       | -1,769 | -2,709 | -53%   | Increased capacity expansion                                                           |
| Free Cash Flow Generation   | 168    | -457   | -172%  | Reduced owing to higher Capex during the year                                          |

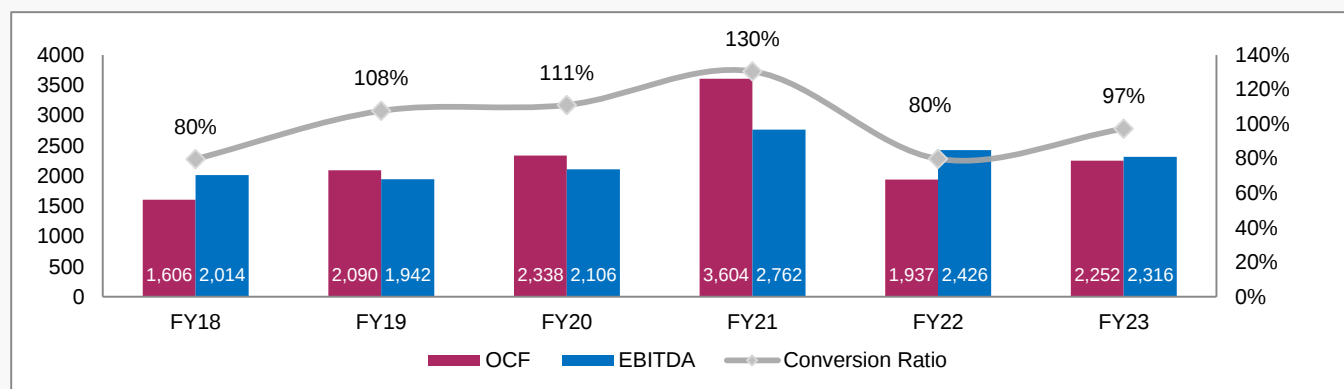
Source: Company; Axis Securities

## Exhibit 15: OCF, Capex, FCF Trend (in Cr)



Source: Company; Axis Securities

## Exhibit 16: OCF, EBITDA, and Conversion ratio trend (Cr)



Source: Company; Axis Securities

## Forex Analysis

- Foreign currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of exposure will fluctuate because of the changes in foreign exchange rates. The Group's exposure to the risk of changes in foreign exchange rates relates primarily to the Group's operating and financing activities and the same are hedged in line with established risk management policies of the Group including the use of foreign exchange forward contracts, and options and interest rate swaps.
- During the year, Forex earnings were nil and the outgo was Rs 2.67 Cr against Rs2.52 Cr outgo in FY22.
- No hedging activity was undertaken during the year under review. There is no outstanding forward contract and unhedged foreign currency exposure at the year-end

Source: Company; Axis Securities; Since Forex exposure of the company is low, no specific comments are required.

## Contingent Liability Analysis

| Particulars (Rs Cr)                                                                                                                                     | FY22       | FY23       | Change    | Comments/Analysis                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Demands raised/ show cause notices issued by following authorities in dispute (including cases which have been remanded back for re-assessment):</i> |            |            |           |                                                                                                                                 |
| Market fee                                                                                                                                              | 119        | 137        | 18        | Levy of market fee on the sale of cement within the market notified by Mineral Area Development Authority                       |
| Rat hole mining matter                                                                                                                                  | 116        | 116        | 0         |                                                                                                                                 |
| Stamp duty                                                                                                                                              | 86         | 86         | 0         | Stamp duty on royalty payable on the extraction of limestone and dolomite                                                       |
| Excise and Service tax                                                                                                                                  | 54         | 57         | 3         | The demand forexcise duty disputing the valuation of goods, denial of cenvat credit on input and input services                 |
| Mines and Minerals                                                                                                                                      | 56         | 56         | 0         | Demand in respect of limestone                                                                                                  |
| Income tax matters                                                                                                                                      | 50         | 46         | -4        | Disallowance of expenses relating to exempt income, non-consideration of subsidy as capital receipt                             |
| Sales tax/ VAT/ Entry tax/ GST matters                                                                                                                  | 48         | 41         | -7        | The demand forentry tax on entry of goods, CST by treating stock transfers as inter-state sales, Denial of GST input tax credit |
| Lease rent                                                                                                                                              | 21         | 22         | 1         | The demand forexcess annual lease rent on mining lease in addition to surface rent                                              |
| Customs                                                                                                                                                 | 18         | 18         | 0         | Relating to the coal classification dispute                                                                                     |
| Subsidy/ incentive receivable                                                                                                                           | 18         | 18         | 0         |                                                                                                                                 |
| Other matters                                                                                                                                           | 56         | 66         | 10        | Other claims related to royalty on coal, electricity duty, vendor claims etc.                                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                            | <b>642</b> | <b>663</b> | <b>21</b> |                                                                                                                                 |

Source: Company; Axis Securities

## Corporate Social Responsibility

- Dalmia Bharat Group has always been inspired by the principles of trusteeship as propagated by Mahatma Gandhi. The company's commitment to giving back to society has been an integral part of its business philosophy for over eight decades. The company believes in responsibly conducting its operations and creating a positive impact on all its stakeholders through its CSR initiatives.
- The company conducted external need assessment studies in its neighbouring communities and internally brainstormed to understand its business risks to identify the most crucial social and environmental issues. The insights gathered from these exercises enabled it to focus its efforts on addressing critical challenges related to livelihoods, water, energy, and access to basic amenities.
- During FY23, the company spent Rs 17.5 Cr on CSR.

## Corporate Governance Philosophy

The company prioritises integrity, fairness, and transparency in dealing with all its stakeholders. The company's policies, actions and disclosures go much beyond compliance with applicable laws and regulations, to demonstrate the highest standards of ethical conduct and accountability. Governance thus plays a key role in driving efficiency, promoting an open culture and fostering sustainable value creation.

The company has put in place a code of conduct and robust corporate governance policies. The company's Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing implementation and adherence through delegated authorities to its respective Committees with defined roles and responsibilities.

The Board reviews its strategies in various areas, including succession planning, talent management, acquisitions, financial planning, capital allocation, divestment, business roadmap, EHS and preventive safety measures. Furthermore, the strategies are regularly evaluated to ensure their alignment with the prevailing external environment, and accordingly, course correction measures are undertaken, as and when necessary.

The company embraces the Dalmia way of life and has created a code of conduct to guide its employees and stakeholders on how to conduct business ethically and how to treat others with respect. The company has a zero-tolerance policy towards activities that harm its reputation and take strict action against financial fraud, corruption, harassment, and other misconduct. The company has zero tolerance for negative workplace politics, gossip, racism, and similar activities.

**Financials (Consolidated)**
**Profit & Loss**

(Rs Cr)

| Y/E Mar                   | FY23         | FY24E        | FY25E        |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Net sales</b>          | 13,540       | 15,257       | 16,955       |
| Other operating income    | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| <b>Total income</b>       | 13,540       | 15,257       | 16,955       |
| Raw Material              | 1,981        | 2,303        | 2,498        |
| Power & Fuel              | 3,679        | 3,356        | 3,658        |
| Freight & Forwarding      | 2,802        | 3,250        | 3,575        |
| Employee benefit expenses | 771          | 810          | 858          |
| Other Expenses            | 1,991        | 2,277        | 2,527        |
| <b>EBITDA</b>             | <b>2,316</b> | <b>3,262</b> | <b>3,839</b> |
| Other income              | 138          | 172          | 170          |
| <b>PBIDT</b>              | 2,454        | 3,434        | 4,008        |
| Depreciation              | 1,305        | 1,403        | 1,615        |
| Interest & Fin Chg.       | 234          | 244          | 257          |
| E/o income / (Expense)    | -            | -            | -            |
| <b>Pre-tax profit</b>     | 915          | 1,787        | 2,137        |
| Tax provision             | 242          | 435          | 513          |
| RPAT                      | 673          | 1,352        | 1,624        |
| Minority Interests        | 44           | 30           | 30           |
| Associates                | 554          | 25           | 25           |
| <b>APAT</b>               | <b>1,183</b> | <b>1,347</b> | <b>1,619</b> |

Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Balance Sheet**

(Rs Cr)

| Y/E Mar, Rs Cr                  | FY23   | FY24E  | FY25E  |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Total assets</b>             | 25,543 | 26,808 | 28,199 |
| Net Block                       | 16,467 | 18,569 | 19,178 |
| CWIP                            | 1,859  | 1,859  | 1,859  |
| Investments                     | 587    | 587    | 587    |
| Wkg. cap. (excl cash)           | 881    | 892    | 989    |
| Cash / Bank balance             | 285    | 152    | 224    |
| Misc. Assets                    | 5,464  | 4,749  | 5,362  |
| <b>Capital employed</b>         | 25,543 | 26,808 | 28,199 |
| Equity capital                  | 37     | 37     | 37     |
| Reserves                        | 15,591 | 16,663 | 17,843 |
| Minority Interests              | 116    | 146    | 176    |
| Borrowings                      | 3,742  | 3,820  | 3,888  |
| Def Tax Liabilities             | 1,634  | 1,634  | 1,634  |
| Other Liabilities and Provision | 4,423  | 4,508  | 4,621  |

Source: Company, Axis Securities

**Cash Flow**

(Rs Cr)

| Y/E Mar                    | FY23   | FY24E  | FY25E  |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Profit before tax</b>   | 1,321  | 1,787  | 2,137  |
| Depreciation               | 1,305  | 1,403  | 1,615  |
| Interest Expenses          | 231    | 244    | 257    |
| Non-operating/ EO item     | -95    | -172   | -170   |
| Change in W/C              | -77    | -11    | -97    |
| Income Tax                 | -14    | -435   | -513   |
| <b>Operating Cash Flow</b> | 2,252  | 2,816  | 3,228  |
| Capital Expenditure        | -2,709 | -3,662 | -2,543 |
| Investments                | 329    | 800    | -500   |
| Others                     | 87     | 172    | 170    |
| <b>Investing Cash Flow</b> | -2,326 | -2,689 | -2,874 |
| Borrowings                 | -677   | 78     | 68     |
| Interest Expenses          | -297   | -244   | -257   |
| Dividend paid              | -169   | -94    | -94    |
| Others                     | -33    | -      | -      |
| <b>Financing Cash Flow</b> | -118   | -26    | -28    |
| Change in Cash             | 94     | -133   | 72     |
| Opening Cash               | 140    | 234    | 101    |
| Closing Cash               | 234    | 101    | 173    |

Source: Company, Axis Securities

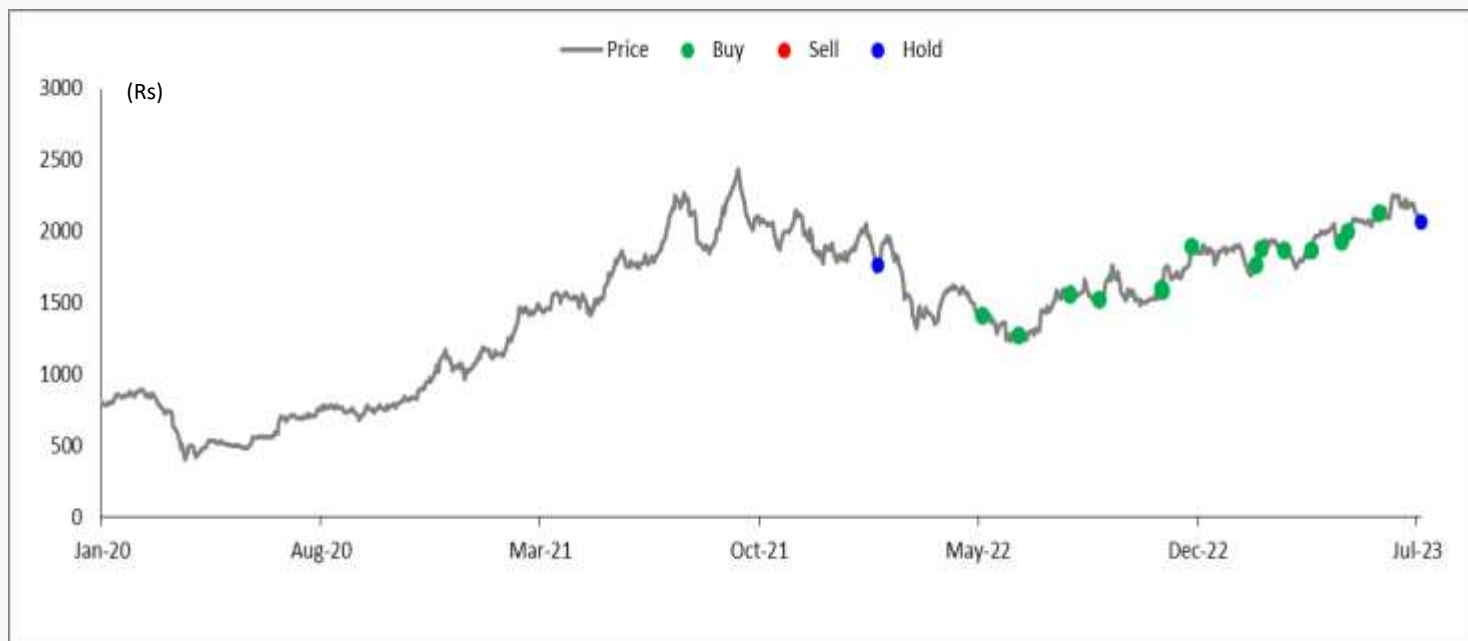
**Ratio Analysis**

(%)

| Y/E Mar                         | FY23  | FY24E | FY25E |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Operational Ratios</b>       |       |       |       |
| Sales growth                    | 20%   | 13%   | 11%   |
| OPM                             | 17%   | 21%   | 23%   |
| Op. profit growth               | -5%   | 41%   | 18%   |
| COGS / Net sales                | 62%   | 58%   | 57%   |
| Overheads/Net sales             | 20%   | 20%   | 20%   |
| Depreciation / G. block         | 5.3%  | 5.0%  | 5.3%  |
| Effective interest rate         | 6.3%  | 6.4%  | 6.6%  |
| <b>Efficiency Ratios</b>        |       |       |       |
| Total Asset Turnover (x)        | 0.53  | 0.57  | 0.60  |
| Sales/Gross block (x)           | 0.55  | 0.54  | 0.55  |
| Sales/Net block(x)              | 0.82  | 0.82  | 0.88  |
| Working capital/Sales (x)       | 0.20  | 0.12  | 0.14  |
| <b>Valuation Ratios</b>         |       |       |       |
| P/BV (x)                        | 1.82  | 2.36  | 2.20  |
| PER (x)                         | 28    | 30    | 25    |
| EV/Ebitda (x)                   | 12.6  | 12.7  | 10.7  |
| EV/Sales (x)                    | 2.2   | 2.7   | 2.4   |
| EV/Tonne \$ (x)                 | 92    | 108   | 107   |
| <b>Return Ratios (%)</b>        |       |       |       |
| ROE                             | 7%    | 8%    | 9%    |
| ROCE                            | 6     | 9     | 11    |
| ROIC                            | 7     | 10    | 12    |
| <b>Leverage Ratios</b>          |       |       |       |
| Debt/equity (x)                 | 0.24  | 0.23  | 0.22  |
| Net debt/ Equity (x)            | 0.04  | 0.10  | 0.06  |
| Debt service coverage ratio (x) | 0.31  | 0.53  | 0.62  |
| Interest Coverage ratio (x)     | 4.91  | 8.31  | 9.33  |
| <b>Cash Flow Ratios (%)</b>     |       |       |       |
| OCF/Sales                       | 0.17  | 0.18  | 0.19  |
| OCF/Ebitda                      | 0.97  | 0.86  | 0.84  |
| OCF/Capital Employed            | 0.11  | 0.13  | 0.14  |
| FCF/Sales                       | -0.03 | -0.06 | 0.04  |
| Payout ratio (Div/NP)           | 16.3  | 7.0   | 5.8   |
| AEPS (Rs.)                      | 55.2  | 71.8  | 86.4  |
| AEPS Growth                     | 27    | 30    | 20    |
| CEPS (Rs.)                      | 125   | 147   | 172   |
| DPS (Rs.)                       | 9     | 5     | 5     |

Source: Company, Axis Securities

## Dalmia Bharat Price Chart and Recommendation History



| Date      | Reco | TP    | Research      |
|-----------|------|-------|---------------|
| 31-Jan-22 | HOLD | 1,945 | Result Update |
| 11-May-22 | BUY  | 1,635 | Result Update |
| 16-Jun-22 | BUY  | 1,635 | AAA           |
| 05-Aug-22 | BUY  | 1,820 | Result Update |
| 01-Sep-22 | BUY  | 1,850 | Top Picks     |
| 01-Oct-22 | BUY  | 1,850 | Top Picks     |
| 01-Nov-22 | BUY  | 1,850 | Top Picks     |
| 03-Nov-22 | BUY  | 1,900 | Result Update |
| 01-Dec-22 | BUY  | 2,070 | Top Picks     |
| 01-Jan-23 | BUY  | 2,070 | Top Picks     |
| 07-Feb-23 | BUY  | 2,120 | Result Update |
| 01-Mar-23 | BUY  | 2,120 | Top Picks     |
| 28-Mar-23 | BUY  | 2,260 | Result Update |
| 01-Apr-23 | BUY  | 2,120 | Top Picks     |
| 27-Apr-23 | BUY  | 2,230 | Result Update |
| 02-May-23 | BUY  | 2,260 | Result Update |
| 01-Jun-23 | BUY  | 2,350 | Top Picks     |
| 13-Jul-23 | HOLD | 2,230 | AAA           |
|           |      |       |               |

Source: Axis Securities

#### About the analyst



Analyst: Uttam Kumar Simal

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Sector: cement/Infra

Analyst Bio: Uttam K Simal is PGDBF from NMIMS with 20 years of experience in Equity Market/Research.

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Sector: Cement/Infra

Analyst Bio: Shikha Doshi is Master of Science in Finance from Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, currently handling Cement/infra sector.

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|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ratings               | Expected absolute returns over 12-18 months                                                                |
| <b>BUY</b>            | More than 10%                                                                                              |
| <b>HOLD</b>           | Between 10% and -10%                                                                                       |
| <b>SELL</b>           | Less than -10%                                                                                             |
| <b>NOT RATED</b>      | We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning valuation and recommendation |
| <b>UNDER REVIEW</b>   | We will revisit our recommendation, valuation and estimates on the stock following recent events           |
| <b>NO STANCE</b>      | We do not have any forward looking estimates, valuation or recommendation for the stock                    |

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