Equity Research

July 4, 2023

BSE Sensex: 65205

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Indian exchanges

Company update and TP revision

Target price: Rs1,430
Target price revision

Rs1,430 from Rs1,412

Shareholding pattern

	Sep '22	Dec '22	Mar '23
Promoters	0.0	0.0	0.0
Institutional			
Investors	75.4	78.7	78.9
MFs & others	32.8	34.8	34.0
Fls/Banks	16.6	17.7	17.6
FIIs	23.9	26.2	27.3
Others	24.6	21.3	21.1

Source: BSE, NSE

ESG disclosure score

Year	2021	2022	Chg
ESG score	32.2	38.3	6.0
Environment	0.9	16.5	15.6
Social	17.0	19.6	2.6
Governance	78.6	78.6	0.0

Note - Score ranges from 0 - 100 with a higher score indicating higher ESG disclosures.
Source: Bloomberg, I-sec research

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INDIA





Multi Commodity Exchange of India

Maintained

The contrasting extremes: Further delay in new software platform implementation and surging options volumes

Rs1,508

Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX)'s extension of services of its existing software vendor poses a challenge to our FY24 earnings expectations considering the impact is pegged at Rs3.5bn compared to normal annual software cost of Rs550-600mn pre FY23. However, there has been a strong silver lining in rising options volumes which were at Rs745bn ADTV levels in Jun'23 vs Rs340bn in FY23. These contrasting extremes make us cut valuation multiples on account of weak execution in terms of software platform transition but earnings upgrade in FY25 due to higher options volumes assuming the complete transition happens by FY24 end. The ultimate event of transition is still pending, and hence, is an overhang. Maintain HOLD.

- ▶ Options volumes up sharply in Jun'23: MCX reported a sharp increase of 16% MoM in its options ADTV while futures ADTV dipped 7% MoM to reach future/option ADTV of Rs212/745bn in Jun'23. Within futures, strong growth reported in crude ADTV (up 14% MoM) was offset by sharp decline in gold ADTV ((-)28% MoM). Overall fall in futures ADTV was driven by sharp decline in gold volumes traded. Options ADTV crossed the Rs700bn mark for the first time in Jun'23. Gold ADTV after seeing a massive 222% MoM increase in May'23 declined 58% MoM in Jun'23, which was more than made up by a surge in silver (224% MoM), crude oil (22% MoM), and natural gas (25% MoM) in Jun'23.
- ▶ Expect Rs6.2/7bn revenue for FY24/25E. Based on Jun'23 run-rate, we expect FY24/25E futures ATDV at Rs215/240bn (earlier Rs230bn/250bn) while options ADTV is expected at Rs720/Rs820bn (earlier Rs450/500bn), respectively. With likely flattish trend in realisation (in line with management expectations of Rs20.8/mn for futures notional turnover and Rs450/mn for options premium turnover), we expect transaction revenue CAGR at 18% between FY23-25. Our options revenue factors premium turnover at ~1.9% of notional turnover in line with recent trends. Other operating income (which includes interest income on margin money) is expected to grow at 8% CAGR between FY23-FY25E.
- ▶ Expect EBITDA of Rs954mn/4.8bn in FY24/25E. We build in software cost expectations of Rs3.4bn for Q1-Q3FY24E per quarter and Rs50mn/200mn for Q4FY24/FY25E, respectively. Operating costs ex-software is built at Rs1.8/2bn for FY24/25E compared to Rs1.6bn for FY23. We deduct software amortisation cost (annual run rate estimated at Rs300mn) for arriving at PAT estimate of Rs1.1/3.8bn for FY24/25E.
- ▶ **Risks include:** Further delay in new software implementation, dip in volumes and competitive treats

Market Cap	Rs76.9bn/US\$939mn
Reuters/Bloomberg	MCEIQF.BO/ MCX IN
Shares Outstanding (r	mn) 51.0
52-week Range (Rs)	1660/1165
Free Float (%)	100.0
FII (%)	27.3
Daily Volume (US\$/'00	7,097
Absolute Return 3m (9	%) (0.3)
Absolute Return 12m	(%) 18.9
Sensex Return 3m (%) 11.0
Sensex Return 12m (9	%) 24.8

FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
3,668	5,135	6,236	6,989
1,639	1,490	1,120	3,757
32.1	29.2	22.0	73.7
(27.2)	(9.1)	(24.8)	235.4
46.8	51.5	68.5	20.4
36.6	33.4	29.3	85.9
30.5	32.6	41.5	12.1
1.2	1.3	0.9	2.2
7.3	6.8	3.0	18.5
11.6	10.3	7.5	23.1
	3,668 1,639 32.1 (27.2) 46.8 36.6 30.5 1.2	3,668 5,135 1,639 1,490 32.1 29.2 (27.2) (9.1) 46.8 51.5 36.6 33.4 30.5 32.6 1.2 1.3 7.3 6.8	3,668 5,135 6,236 1,639 1,490 1,120 32.1 29.2 22.0 (27.2) (9.1) (24.8) 46.8 51.5 68.5 36.6 33.4 29.3 30.5 32.6 41.5 1.2 1.3 0.9 7.3 6.8 3.0

- ▶ Maintain HOLD with target price of Rs1,430 (earlier Rs1,412 based on 20x (earlier: 25x) FY25E adjusted core EPS of Rs65.5 plus free cash of Rs120per share). We exclude investment income and add back software amortisation (considering additional non-cash amortisation is only during a limited time frame of 5-6 years and the investment outgo is already factored in our capex estimate of ~Rs1.5bn for FY24 and FY25) in calculating our core EPS after making tax adjustments. We factor in free cash and investments of Rs120/share after deducting SGF, margin money and mandatory reserves.
- ▶ Our key concerns that have led to a cut in multiples include: (1) Uncertainty in final transition to new software platform, (2) possible lower other operating income (Rs210mn in Q4FY23) post the implementation of blocked funds regulation even for secondary markets and (3) New regulatory changes, wherein all stock brokers are mandated to register their new clients on all the active stock exchanges after obtaining the trading preferences as per format which will be common for exchanges. For existing clients, the brokers are mandated to offer them access to all the active stock exchanges for the segments already opted by them, as a default mode, within three months and inform their clients through email/ SMS. These provisions are likely to come into force from 1st Aug '23 (Link).

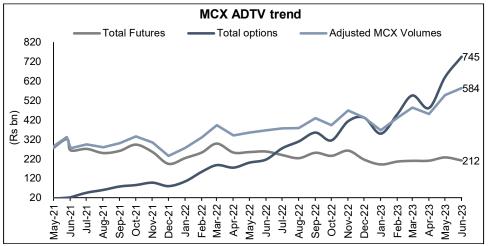
Table 1: MCX key financial numbers

(Rs mn)	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	CAGR (FY23-25)
Futures ADTV	2,62,522	2,34,257	2,15,000	2,40,000	1.2%
Options ADTV	79,836	3,39,980	7,20,000	8,20,000	55.3%
Days	254	257	256	256	
Futures realisation Rs/mn	20.7	20.8	20.8	20.8	
Options realisation Rs/mn (Premium turnvoer)	450	450	450	450	
Options premium % of turonver	2.47%	2.42%	1.90%	1.9%	
Futures Revenues	2,761	2,504	2,284	2,550	0.9%
Options revenues	-	1,904	3,152	3,590	37.3%
Other Operating revenues	908	726	800	850	8.2%
Total Revenues	3,668	5,135	6,236	6,989	16.7%
		4,409	5,436	6,139	18.0%
Expenses	2,046	3,638	5,282	2,202	-22.2%
Employee cost	800	919	1,014	1,115	10.2%
Software	557	2,000	3,462	200	-68.4%
Other	689	719	806	887	11.1%
EBITDA	1,622	1,497	954	4,787	78.8%
Margin	44.2%	29.2%	15.3%	68.5%	
Other Income	665	677	819	860	12.7%
Depn and Amortisation	227	216	373	624	70.0%
Of which normal depn	227	216	300	320	21.7%
Of which Amortisation	-	-	73	304	
PBT	2,060	1,958	1,400	5,023	60.2%
Tax	406	416	280	1,266	74.4%
Effective tax rate	19.7%	21.3%	20.0%	25.2%	8.9%
Reported PAT	1,435	1,490	1,120	3,757	58.8%

	FY25E	
Reported PAT	3,757	
Other Income	860	
Amortisation of additional depreciation	304	
Tax impact of other income and additional depn	(140)	
Adjusted Core PAT (ex-other income and amortisation and tax impact)	3,253	
Adjusted EPS	66	
Multiple	20	
Value per share	1,310	
Add: Cash per share	120	
Target price	1,430	
CMP	1,504	
Upside	-4.9%	

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Chart 1: MCX volume has shown an encouraging trend in Q1FY24



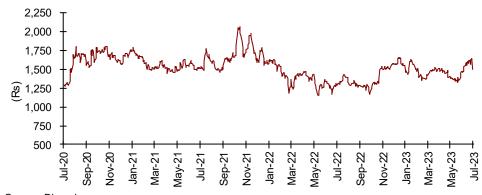
Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Table 2: MCX commodity wise options

(Rs mn)	Gold	Silver	Crude Oil	Natural Gas	Copper	Zinc	Total options
Apr-22	7,344	2,286	1,30,112	35,333	10	2	1,75,087
May-22	16,881	1,108	1,49,127	33,763	8	1	2,00,887
Jun-22	5,355	2,538	1,62,235	46,760	12	1	2,16,901
Jul-22	15,313	1,802	2,03,706	53,746	24	2	2,74,593
Aug-22	6,720	4,135	2,35,935	62,986	16	2	3,09,794
Sep-22	17,886	2,116	2,64,000	71,234	19	1	3,55,255
Oct-22	9,547	3,911	2,39,590	62,149	16	0	3,15,213
Nov-22	24,471	9,335	2,87,906	91,740	23	2	4,13,476
Dec-22	13,176	3,298	3,16,120	99,257	39	1	4,31,890
Jan-23	19,472	3,441	2,65,127	61,577	44	1	3,49,662
Feb-23	14,231	8,699	3,80,549	46,546	12	1	4,50,039
Mar-23	49,920	7,261	4,42,551	46,378	30	4	5,46,143
Apr-23	24,222	29,778	3,67,412	60,093	9	1	4,81,517
May-23	78,096	11,555	4,79,562	71,116	54	1	6,40,383
Jun-23	32,823	37,425	5,85,477	89,482	92	1	7,45,300

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Price chart



Source: Bloomberg

Financial summary (consolidated)

Table 3: Profit and loss statement

(Rs mn, year ending March 31)

	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
Total Income	3,668	5,135	6,236	6,989
Operating Expenses	2,046	3,638	5,282	2,202
EBITDA	1,622	1,497	954	4,787
% margins	44.2	29.2	15.3	68.5
Depreciation & Amortisation	227	216	373	624
Net Interest	2.4	2.1	-	-
Other Income	665	677	819	860
Recurring PBT	2,057	1,956	1,400	5,023
Add: Extraordinaries	(204)	-	-	-
Less: Taxes				
- Current tax	406	416	280	1,266
- Deferred tax	-	-	-	-
Less: Minority Interest & Share in				
associates	(13)	(50)	-	-
Net Income (Reported)	1,435	1,490	1,120	3,757
Recurring Net Income	1,639	1,490	1,120	3,757
0 1 10				

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Table 4: Balance sheet

(Rs mn, year ending March 31)

	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Assets				
Total Current Assets	13,918	16,591	17,086	22,523
of which cash & cash eqv.	9,755	11,779	12,675	17,044
Total Current Liabilities &				
Provisions	13,726	15,435	16,474	19,652
Net Current Assets	192	1,156	613	2,871
Investments				
of which	11,575	10,465	10,580	10,707
Strategic/Group	4,440	8,441	8,441	8,441
Others	7,135	2,024	2,138	2,266
Net Fixed Assets	2,513	3,172	4,049	3,730
of which				
Intangibles	190	188	338	488
Capital Work-in-Progress	948	1,685	1,685	1,685
Goodwill	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	14,280	14,794	15,242	17,308
Liabilities				
Borrowings				
Deferred Tax Liability	98	-	-	-
Minority Interest	-	-	-	-
Equity Share Capital	510	510	510	510
Face Value per share (Rs)	10	10	10	10
Reserves & Surplus	13,671	14,283	14,731	16,798
Net Worth	14,181	14,793	15,241	17,308
Total Liabilities	14,280	14,794	15,242	17,308

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Table 5: Cashflow statement

(Rs mn, year ending March 31)

	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
Op. Cashflow post tax	(1,663)	354	674	3,521
Working Capital Changes	5,576	1,060	1,440	2,111
Capital Commitments	(818)	(875)	(1,250)	(305)
Free Cashflow	3,095	539	863	5,327
Cashflow from Investing				
Activities	(604)	795	705	733
Issue of Share Capital		-	-	-
Buyback of shares	-	-	-	-
Inc (Dec) in Borrowings	-	-	-	-
Dividend paid	(1,408)	(887)	(672)	(1,691)
Interest paid	(9)	(7)	` -	
Chg. in Ċash & Bank	. ,	` ,		
balance	1,075	438	896	4,369
Source: Company data I-Sec	recearch			

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Table 6: Key ratios

(Year ending March 31)

,	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
Per Share Data (Rs)				
EPS(Basic Recurring)	28.1	29.2	22.0	73.7
Diluted Recurring EPS	32.1	29.2	22.0	73.7
Core EPS	28.6	26.8	18.3	72.2
Recurring Cash EPS	36.6	33.4	29.3	85.9
Dividend per share (DPS)	17.4	19.1	13.2	33.1
Book Value per share (BV)	278	290	299	339
Growth Ratios (%)				
Operating Income	(6.1)	40.0	21.4	12.1
EBITDA	(12.4)	(7.7)	(36.3)	402.0
Recurring Net Income	(27.2)	(9.1)	(24.8)	235.4
Diluted Recurring EPS	(27.2)	(9.1)	(24.8)	235.4
Diluted Recurring CEPS	(24.5)	(8.6)	(12.5)	193.5
Valuation Ratios				
P/E	46.8	51.5	68.5	20.4
P/CEPS	41.1	45.0	51.4	17.5
P/BV	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.4
EV / EBITDA	30.5	32.6	41.5	12.1
EV / EBIT	48.0	55.9	123.0	16.9
EV / Op. FCF (pre -Capex)	22.3	146.5	82.8	13.2
Operating Ratios				
Software support charge /				
Revenue	18.1	45.4	63.7	3.3
Employee charge / Revenue	26.7	20.7	18.7	18.2
Effective Tax Rate (%)	22.5	20.0	20.0	25.2
Current ratio	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2
Profitability Ratios (%)				
EBITDA Margins	44.2	29.2	15.3	68.5
Rec. Net Income Margins	37.8	25.6	15.9	47.9
RoCE	7.3	6.8	3.0	18.5
RoNW	11.6	10.3	7.5	23.1
Dividend Payout Ratio	54	65	60	45
Dividend Yield	1.2	1.3	0.9	2.2
Source: Company data, I-Sec re	search			

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

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