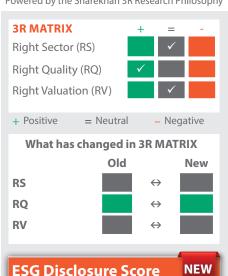
Powered by the Sharekhan 3R Research Philosophy



0-10 10-20 Source: Morningstar

High Risk

NEGL

ESG RISK RATING

LOW

Updated Aug 08, 2023

Company details

Market cap:	Rs. 1,88,300 cr
52-week high/low:	Rs. 840/616
NSE volume: (No of shares)	26.0 lakh
BSE code:	500228
NSE code:	JSWSTEEL
Free float: (No of shares)	135.0 cr

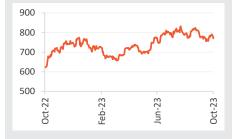
MFD

20-30

Shareholding (%)

Promoters	44.8
FII	26.1
DII	9.5
Others	19.6

Price chart



Price performance

(%)	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	-1.0	-2.0	8.2	23.8
Relative to Sensex	0.2	-0.1	-1.4	13.5
Sharekhan Research, Bloomberg				

JSW Steel Ltd

Strong Q2; rich valuations a concern

Metal & Minning		Sharekh	an code: JSWSTEEL	
Reco/View: Reduce	\leftrightarrow	CMP: Rs. 770	Price Target: Rs. 700	\leftrightarrow
	Jpgrade	→ Maintain	Downgrade	

Summary

- Q2FY24 consolidated operating profit of Rs. 7,886 crore (up 12% q-o-q) was above our estimate as better-thanexpected standalone volume/margin offsets weak performance of overseas subsidiaries. Adjusted PAT of Rs. 2,184 crore (down 10% q-o-q) was 18% below our estimate due to a substantially higher tax outgo.
- Standalone EBITDA grew strongly by 42% q-o-q to Rs. 6,898 crore (18% beat) as lower coking coal cost led to 29% q-o-q jump in EBITDA margin to Rs. 12,750/tonne (16% above estimate) and robust India demand led to better sales volume growth of 10% q-o-q to 5.41 mt. US subsidiaries posted weak performance on lower volumes/realisation due to adverse market conditions.
- India steel prices have been hiked for the past three consecutive months and that would largely offset recent surge in coking coal/iron ore price and thus steel spreads likely to sustain at current levels in Q3FY24. The company maintained FY24 steel sales volume guidance of 24mt and plans to expand steel production capacity to 37 mt/50 mt by FY25E/FY31E.
- Valuation of 7.7x FY25E EV/EBITDA seem rich to us and is factoring in expectation of margin/volume recovery.
 We do not find comfort in current valuations, given a premium to historical average EV/EBITDA of 6.7x and debt to remain elevated given capex plan. Hence, we maintain our Reduce rating on JSW Steel with an unchanged PT of Rs. 700.

Q2FY24 consolidated EBITDA of Rs. 7886 crore (up 4.5x y-o-y; up 12% q-o-q) was 7.6% above our estimate of Rs. 7330 crore led by better-than-expected standalone margin/volumes which offset the weak performance of overseas subsidiaries (EBITDA down 55% q-o-q). Standalone EBITDA of Rs. 6,898 crore (up 42% q-o-q) was 18% above our estimate supported by beat of 16%/2% in EBITDA margin/volume at Rs. 12,750/tonne (up 29% q-o-q) and 5.41 mt (up 10% q-o-q), respectively. The strong sequential improvement in standalone EBITDA margin reflects benefit of lower coking coal price partially offset by 4% q-o-q decline in realisations. Performance of overseas subsidiaries was weak – EBITDA of JSW Steel USA Ohio/US Plate & Pipe declined sharply to -529 million/\$26 million (versus \$2.6 million/\$45 million in Q1FY24) as adverse market conditions led to steep decline in volume and lower steel realisations. EBITDA from Italy operations decline by 52% q-o-q to Euro8.9 million due to lower realisation offsetting q-o-q increase in volumes. Indian subsidiaries posted decent performance with 6% q-o-q increase in EBITDA from BPSL to Rs. 745 crore led by 16% q-o-q higher volume while EBITDA margin decline by 8.6% q-o-q to Rs. 9313/tonne. JSW Steel Coated's EBITDA rose by 6% q-o-q to Rs. 411 crore led by 16% jump in volumes to 1.09 million tonnes which has partially offset by decline of 8.4% q-o-q in EBITDA margin due to lower export realisations. Consolidated adjusted PAT of Rs. 2,184 crore (versus adjusted net loss of Rs. 26 crore in Q2FY23) was down by 10% q-o-q due to higher depreciation/interest cost and high tax outgo (effective tax rate of 45% versus 30% in Q1FY24).

Key positives

36.66

SEVERE

 \blacksquare

HIGH

30-40

- Beat of 16% in standalone EBITDA margin at Rs. 12,750/tonne, up 29% q-o-q.
- Better-than-expected standalone volume growth of 10% g-o-g to 5.41 mt.

Key negatives

- Overseas EBITDA declined sharply by 55% q-o-q due to performance from US/Italy subsidiaries.
- Net debt rose by 3.6% q-o-q mainly due to JISPL merger.

Management Commentary

- FY24 consolidated steel production/sale volume guidance maintained at 26.3 mt/25 mt. For India operations, (including joint control) guidance also retained at 25.5 mt/24.2 mt.
- Coking coal prices to increase by \$30/tonne in Q3FY24 but India steel price has been hiked in August/September/ October 2023 which would largely offset rise in input cost.
- Vijaynagar/BPSL phase-II expansion of 5 mtpa/1.5 mtpa is on track to be completed in FY24. Plan to expand
 capacity to 37mtpa/50mtpa by FY25E/FY31E in line with expectation of strong steel demand growth of 8-10%
 for India.
- H1FY24 standalone/consolidated capex spending was at Rs. 7795 crore/Rs. 7,996 crore. FY24 standalone/consolidated capex guidance maintained at Rs. 18,800 crore/Rs. 20,000 crore.
- Net debt rose by 13% q-o-q to Rs. 66,797 crore as of June 2023 with net debt-to-EBITDA ratio of 3.14x versus 3.2x in O4FY23.

Revision in estimates – We maintain our FY24-25 earnings estimates.

Our Cal

Valuation – Maintain Reduce rating with an unchanged PT of Rs. 700: Current valuation of 7.7x FY25E EV/EBITDA seems to factor in some recovery in steel margin and benefit of volume growth. However, we do not find comfort at current rich valuation given premium to historical average EV/EBITDA of 6.7x and elevated debt level. Hence, we maintain our Reduce rating on JSW Steel with an unchanged PT of Rs. 700.

Key Risks

Surge in steel prices and normalisation of coking coal prices could result higher-than-expected steel spreads and remains key risk to our earnings and ratings.

Valuation (Consolidated)				Rs cr
Particulars	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
Revenue	1,46,371	1,65,960	1,63,624	1,80,463
OPM (%)	26.6	11.2	18.4	18.8
Adjusted PAT	20,938	4,139	12,901	15,218
% YoY growth	165.9	-80.2	211.7	18.0
Adjusted EPS (Rs.)	86.6	17.1	53.4	63.0
P/E (x)	8.9	44.8	14.4	12.2
P/BV (x)	3.4	3.5	2.4	2.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	6.1	13.2	8.4	7.7
ROE (%)	32.9	6.2	16.5	16.5
RoCE (%)	23.1	7.7	13.5	14.0

Source: Company; Sharekhan estimates

October 20, 2023



Strong Q2 led by beat in standalone earnings; overseas performance disappointed

Q2FY24 consolidated EBITDA of Rs. 7886 crore (up 4.5x y-o-y; up 12% q-o-q) was 7.6% above our estimate of Rs. 7330 crore led by better-than-expected standalone margin/volumes which offset the weak performance of overseas subsidiaries (EBITDA down 55% q-o-q). Standalone EBITDA of Rs. 6,898 crore (up 42% q-o-q) was 18% above our estimate supported by beat of 16%/2% in EBITDA margin/volume at Rs. 12,750/tonne (up 29% q-o-q) and 5.41 mt (up 10% q-o-q), respectively. The strong sequential improvement in standalone EBITDA margin reflects benefit of lower coking coal price partially offset by 4% q-o-q decline in realisations. Performance of overseas subsidiaries was weak - EBITDA of JSW Steel USA Ohio/US Plate & Pipe declined sharply to -\$29 million/\$26 million (versus \$2.6 million/\$45 million in Q1FY24) as adverse market conditions led to steep decline in volume and lower steel realisations. EBITDA from Italy operations decline by 52% q-o-q to Euro 8.9 million due to lower realisation offsetting q-o-q increase in volumes. Indian subsidiaries posted decent performance with 6% q-o-q increase in EBITDA from BPSL to Rs. 745 crore led by 16% q-o-q higher volume while EBITDA margin decline by 8.6% q-o-q to Rs. 9313/tonne. JSW Steel Coated's EBITDA rose by 6% q-o-q to Rs. 411 crore led by 16% jump in volumes to 1.09 million tonnes which has partially offset by decline of 8.4% q-o-q in EBITDA margin due to lower export realisations. Consolidated adjusted PAT of Rs. 2,184 crore (versus adjusted net loss of Rs. 26 crore in Q2FY23) was down by 10% q-o-q due to higher depreciation/interest cost and high tax outgo (effective tax rate of 45% versus 30% in Q1FY24). We have adjusted reported PAT of Rs. 2773 crore for 1) fair value gain of Rs. 780 crore on investment in CSSL upon fair valuation pursuant to merger of CSSL and JISPL, 2) gain of Rs. 198 crore upon sale of assets and rights held at West Virginia, 3) a provision of Rs. 389 crore pursuant to dismissal of the company's petition in the Goa green cess matter.

Q2FY24 conference call highlights

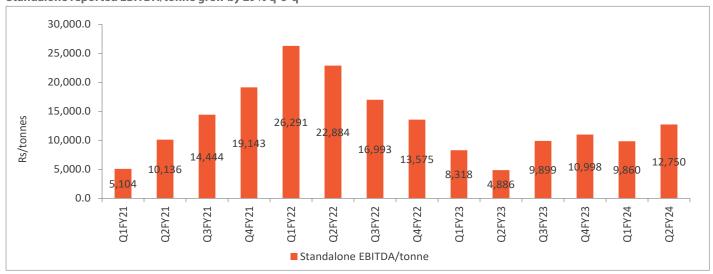
- **Domestic steel demand:** Crude steel production grew by 14.1% Y-o-Y in H1 FY2024 to 69.7 million tonnes. For FY2024, the management expect steel demand grow in double digits mainly due to strong government capex, pickup in manufacturing and with a strong demand from residential real estate. While exports of steels have moderated, imports of steel has grown by 23% in H1FY2024, which remain an area of concern for management.
- Capacity Expansion: The company is planning to add around 8.5 million tonnes of steel capacity over the next 1.5 years to take total capacity to 37 million tonnes at a capex of Rs. 52,000 crore which will be mostly funded through internal accrual. The management plans to take total capacities to 50 million tonnes by 2030.
- **Inventory liquidation:** The company has liquidated the inventory of about 300,000 tonnes, which got built up in Q1FY2024.
- Steel production/sales guidance: The management believes that they are on track to achieve our production and sales guidance for FY24. FY24 consolidated steel production/sale volume guidance maintained at 26.3 mt/25 mt. For India operations, (including joint control) guidance also retained at 25.5 mt/24.2 mt.
- **Debt:** Company's net debt stood at Rs. 69,195 crore, up by rupees Rs. 2,398 crore as compared to Q1FY2024. The increase in net debt was mainly due to consolidation of net debt of Rs. 2,200 crores during JISPL merger.
- Raw material prices: Both coking coal and iron ore prices have seen some increase in September and October. The management believes that global steel prices have largely bottomed out and they expected to see some uptick in steel prices, reflecting the increase in raw material costs.
- Capex in H1FY24: The company has done capital expenditure of Rs. 20,000 crore in building domestic as well as international capacities during H1FY2024.
- Raw material security: The company is working on increasing its raw material security. The company continues
 to participate in the upcoming mines auction in proximity to its plants, which will give the company strategically
 and logistically advantage.
- Move towards renewable energy: The company currently working with various suppliers, who are willing to
 construct renewable energy assets for company's dedicated use. The company need dedicated capacity of
 7,000 megawatts of renewables capacity to meet its need. Of this capacity, around 1000 MW will come online by
 Q4FY2024. The company needs to incur minimum capex as most of the capex will be incurred by power producers.



Results (Consolidated)					Rs cr
Particulars	Q2FY24	Q2FY23	YoY (%)	Q1FY24	QoQ (%)
Revenue	44,584	41,778	6.7%	42,213	5.6%
Total expenditure	36,698	40,026	-8.3%	35,167	4.4%
Operating profit	7,886	1,752	350.1%	7,046	11.9%
Other Income	237	188	26.1%	331	-28.4%
Interest	2,084	1,523	36.8%	1,963	6.2%
Depreciation	2,019	1,805	11.9%	1,900	6.3%
Reported PBT	4,020	(1,388)	NA	3,514	14.4%
Tax	1,812	62	NA	1,052	72.2%
EO	589	(889)	NA	-	NA
Reported PAT	2,773	(915)	NA	2,428	14.2%
Adjusted PAT	2,184	(26)	NA	2,428	-10.0%
Adjusted EPS	9.1	(0.1)	NA	10.1	-10.0%
Margin			BPS		BPS
OPM (%)	17.7	4.2	1,349	16.7	100
NPM (%)	4.9	(0.1)	NA	5.8	(85)
Tax rate	45.1	(4.5)	NA	29.9	1,514

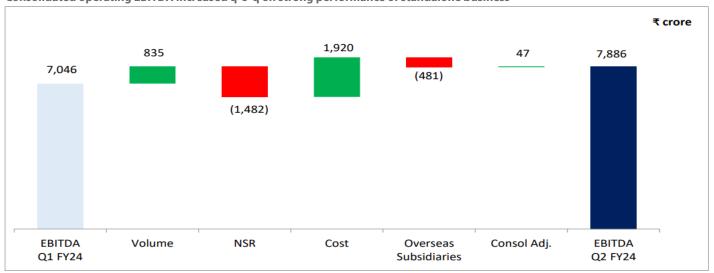
Source: Company; Sharekhan Research; Note: Q2FY24 numbers are consolidated for JISPL for August and September 2023.

Standalone reported EBITDA/tonne grew by 29% q-o-q



Source: Company, Sharekhan Research

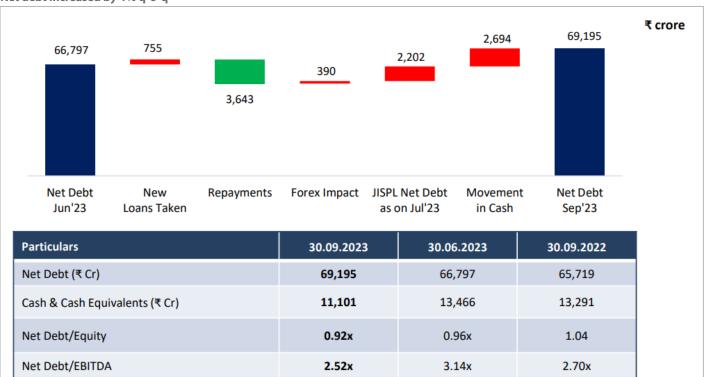
Consolidated operating EBITDA increased q-o-q on strong performance of standalone business



Source: Company

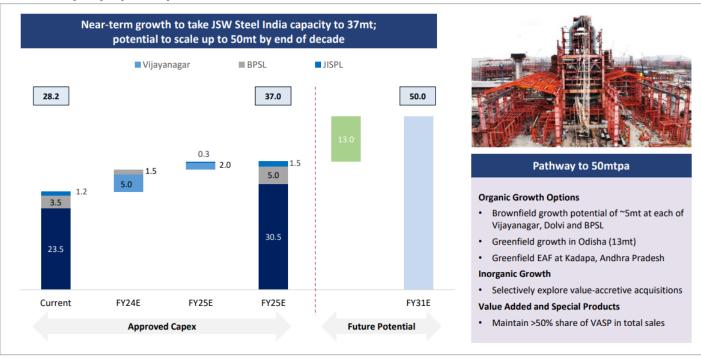
Sharekhan by BNP PARIBAS

Net debt increased by 4% q-o-q



Source: Company

JSW Steel's capacity expansion plan



Source: Company



Outlook and Valuation

■ Sector view - China reopening could support steel demand and price

CY2022 was a year of unprecedented volatility and weakness in global base metal demand and price primarily due to economic growth concern amid interest rate hikes globally, real estate woes in China and COVID-induced lockdowns in China. However, recently positive developments are coming from China for stimulus to revive its real estate market and re-opening of economy from the COVID lockdown. These measures could drive up steel demand in CY2023 and support recovery in Asian steel price and spreads.

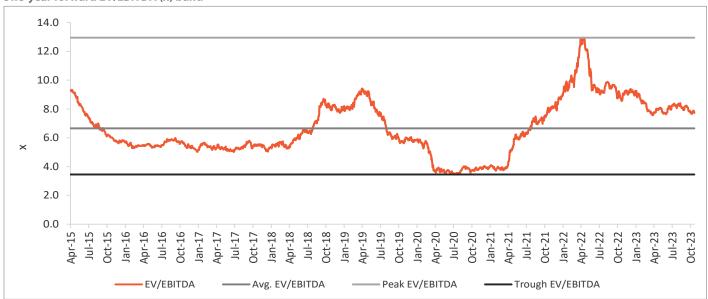
■ Company outlook - Expect gradual margin recovery over FY24E-25E

JSW Steel posted a steep 80% y-o-y decline in its PAT in FY23 due to a decline in steel realisations to result in sharply lower blended EBITDA margins. Post a steep decline in FY23 earnings, we expect JSW Steel's earnings would improve over FY24E/FY25E led by a gradual recovery in steel price/margin and volume growth.

■ Valuation - Maintain Reduce rating with an unchanged PT of Rs. 700

Current valuation of 7.7x FY25E EV/EBITDA seems to factor in some recovery in steel margin and benefit of volume growth. However, we do not find comfort at current rich valuation given premium to historical average EV/EBITDA of 6.7x and elevated debt level. Hence, we maintain our Reduce rating on JSW Steel with an unchanged PT of Rs. 700.

One-year forward EV/EBITDA (x) band



Source: Sharekhan Research



About company

JSW Steel is an integrated steel company and is the flagship company of JSW Group. JSW Steel specialises in producing different types of steel products such as hot rolled steel, galvanised steel, cold rolled steel, and pre-painted galvanised steel products. JSW Steel has steel plants located at Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra with total installed capacity of 28.2 m mt.

Investment theme

China reopening and supportive real estate policies provides a tactical opportunity for recovery in demand sentiments for base metals and steel price recovery in CY23. This makes us turn our view on metal space to neutral from negative, but cyclical upcycle in metal space may not be round the corner given demand concerns in US/Europe. Despite expectations of gradual recovery in steel price/spreads over coming quarters, we believe that continued high capex would be a concern for JSW Steel. Additionally, JSW Steel's valuation is also above historical averages.

Key Risks

- A sharp increase in steel prices and normalisation of coking coal prices could result higher-than-expected steel spreads and remains key risk to our earnings and rating.
- Higher-than-expected steel sales volume.

Additional Data

Key management personnel

Sajjan Jindal	Chairman & Managing Director
Jayant Acharya	Joint Managing Director & CEO
Gajraj Singh Rathore	Chief Operating Officer
Rajeev Pai	Chief Financial Officer

Source: Company

Top 10 shareholders

Sr. No.	Holder Name	Holding (%)
1	Life Insurance Corp of India	7.02
2	Gagandeep Credit Capital Pvt Ltd	2.04
3	THELEME MASTER FUND LTD	1.72
4	Vanguard Group Inc/The	1.6
5	Enam Investment & Services Pvt Ltd	1.14
6	SHAMYAK INVESTMENT PRIVA	1.09
7	BlackRock Inc	0.88
8	SBI Funds Management Ltd	1.31
9	JSW STEEL EMPLOYEE	0.43
10	Dimensional Fund Advisors LP	0.49

Source: Bloomberg

Sharekhan Limited, its analyst or dependant(s) of the analyst might be holding or having a position in the companies mentioned in the article.

Understanding the Sharekhan 3R Matrix

Onderstanding the Sha	
Right Sector	
Positive	Strong industry fundamentals (favorable demand-supply scenario, consistent industry growth), increasing investments, higher entry barrier, and favorable government policies
Neutral	Stagnancy in the industry growth due to macro factors and lower incremental investments by Government/private companies
Negative	Unable to recover from low in the stable economic environment, adverse government policies affecting the business fundamentals and global challenges (currency headwinds and unfavorable policies implemented by global industrial institutions) and any significant increase in commodity prices affecting profitability.
Right Quality	
Positive	Sector leader, Strong management bandwidth, Strong financial track-record, Healthy Balance sheet/cash flows, differentiated product/service portfolio and Good corporate governance.
Neutral	Macro slowdown affecting near term growth profile, Untoward events such as natural calamities resulting in near term uncertainty, Company specific events such as factory shutdown, lack of positive triggers/events in near term, raw material price movement turning unfavourable
Negative	Weakening growth trend led by led by external/internal factors, reshuffling of key management personal, questionable corporate governance, high commodity prices/weak realisation environment resulting in margin pressure and detoriating balance sheet
Right Valuation	
Positive	Strong earnings growth expectation and improving return ratios but valuations are trading at discount to industry leaders/historical average multiples, Expansion in valuation multiple due to expected outperformance amongst its peers and Industry up-cycle with conducive business environment.
Neutral	Trading at par to historical valuations and having limited scope of expansion in valuation multiples.
Negative Source Sharekhan Percarch	Trading at premium valuations but earnings outlook are weak; Emergence of roadblocks such as corporate governance issue, adverse government policies and bleak global macro environment etc warranting for lower than historical valuation multiple.

Source: Sharekhan Research



DISCLAIMER

This information/document has been prepared by Sharekhan Ltd. (SHAREKHAN) and is intended for use only by the person or entity to which it is addressed to. This Document may contain confidential and/or privileged material and is not for any type of circulation and any review, retransmission, or any other use is strictly prohibited. This information/ document is subject to changes without prior notice.

Recommendation in reports based on technical and derivatives analysis is based on studying charts of a stock's price movement, trading volume, outstanding positions, as opposed to focusing on a company's fundamentals and as such, may not match with a report on a company's fundamentals. However, this would only apply for information/document focused on technical and derivatives research and shall not apply to reports/documents/information focused on fundamental research.

This information/document does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any financial instrument or as an official confirmation of any transaction. Though disseminated to all customers who are due to receive the same, not all customers may receive this report at the same time. SHAREKHAN will not treat recipients as customers by virtue of their receiving this information/report.

The information contained herein is obtained from publicly available data or other sources believed to be reliable and SHAREKHAN has not independently verified the accuracy and completeness of the said data and hence it should not be relied upon as such. While we would endeavour to update the information herein on reasonable basis, SHAREKHAN, its subsidiaries and associated companies, their directors and employees ("SHAREKHAN and affiliates") are under no obligation to update or keep the information current. Also, there may be regulatory, compliance, or other reasons that may prevent SHAREKHAN and affiliates from doing so. This document is prepared for assistance only and is not intended to be and must not alone be taken as the basis for an investment decision. Recipients of this report should also be aware that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance and value of investments can go down as well. The user assumes the entire risk of any use made of this information. Each recipient of this document should make such investigations as it deems necessary to arrive at an independent evaluation of an investment in the securities of companies referred to in this document (including the merits and risks involved) and should consult its own advisors to determine the merits and risks of such an investment. The investment discussed or views expressed may not be suitable for all investors. We do not undertake to advise you as to any change of our views. Affiliates of Sharekhan may have issued other recommendations/reports that are inconsistent with and reach different conclusions from the information presented in this recommendations/report.

This information/recommendation/report is not directed or intended for distribution to, or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction, where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law, regulation or which would subject SHAREKHAN and affiliates to any registration or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction. The securities described herein may or may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain category of investors. Persons in whose possession this document may come are required to inform themselves of and to observe such restriction.

The analyst certifies that the analyst might have dealt or traded directly or indirectly in securities of the company and that all the views expressed in this document accurately reflect his or her personal views about the subject company or companies and its or their securities and do not necessarily reflect those of SHAREKHAN. The analyst and SHAREKHAN further certifies that either he or his relatives or Sharekhan associates might have direct or indirect financial interest or might have actual or beneficial ownership of 1% or more in the securities of the company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of the research report. The analyst and SHAREKHAN encourages independence in research report/ material preparation and strives to minimize conflict in preparation of research report. The analyst and SHAREKHAN does not have any material conflict of interest or has not served as officer, director or employee or engaged in market making activity of the company. The analyst and SHAREKHAN has not been a part of the team which has managed or co-managed the public offerings of the company, and no part of the analyst's compensation was, is or will be, directly or indirectly related to specific recommendations or views expressed in this document. Sharekhan Ltd or its associates or analysts have not received any compensation for investment banking, merchant banking, brokerage services or any compensation or other benefits from the subject company or from third party in the past twelve months in connection with the research report.

Either SHAREKHAN or its affiliates or its directors or employees / representatives / clients or their relatives may have position(s), make market, act as principal or engage in transactions of purchase or sell of securities, from time to time or may be materially interested in any of the securities or related securities referred to in this report and they may have used the information set forth herein before publication. SHAREKHAN may from time to time solicit from, or perform investment banking, or other services for, any company mentioned herein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall SHAREKHAN, any of its affiliates or any third party involved in, or related to, computing or compiling the information have any liability for any damages of any kind.

Forward-looking statements (if any) are provided to allow potential investors the opportunity to understand management's beliefs and opinions in respect of the future so that they may use such beliefs and opinions as one factor in evaluating an investment. These statements are not a guarantee of future performance and undue reliance should not be placed on them. Such forward-looking statements necessarily involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual performance and financial results in future periods to differ materially from any projections of future performance or result expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Sharekhan/its affiliates undertakes no obligation to update forward-looking statements if circumstances or management's estimates or opinions should change except as required by applicable securities laws. The reader/investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements and use their independent judgement before taking any investment decision.

Investment in securities market are subject to market risks, read all the related documents carefully before investing. The securities quoted are for illustration only and are not recommendatory. Registration granted by SEBI, and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors.

Client should read the Risk Disclosure Document issued by SEBI & relevant exchanges and the T&C on www.sharekhan.com

Registration and Contact Details: Name of Research Analyst - Sharekhan Limited, Research Analyst Regn No.: INH000006183. CIN): - U99999MH1995PLC087498. Registered Office: The Ruby, 18th Floor, 29 Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West), Mumbai – 400 028, Maharashtra, INDIA. Tel: 022-6115000.

Correspondence/Administrative Office: Gigaplex IT Park, Unit No 1001, 10th Floor, Building No.9, TTC Industrial Area, Digha, Airoli-West, Navi Mumbai – 400 708. Tel: 022 61169000 / 61150000, Fax No. 61169699.

Other registrations of Sharekhan Ltd.: SEBI Regn. Nos.: BSE / NSE / MSEI (CASH / F&O / CD) / MCX - Commodity: INZ000171337; DP: NSDL/CDSL-IN-DP-365-2018; PMS: INP000005786; Mutual Fund: ARN 20669.

Compliance Officer: Ms. Binkle Oza; Tel: 022-62263303; email id: complianceofficer@sharekhan.com

For any complaints/grievance, email us at igc@sharekhan.com or you may even call Customer Service desk on - 022 - 41523200/022 - 69920600