

16 May 2024

India | Equity Research | Q4FY24 results review

Shree Cement

Cement

Cost control drives a home run; sector concerns persist

Shree Cement's (SRCM) Q4FY24 EBITDA/t, at INR 1,347, has yet again stood at the highest level among peers. EBITDA, at INR 13.3bn, stood 27% ahead of estimates (racing 49% YoY), riding the benefits of operating leverage (other expenses/t slipped >18% QoQ) and low variable cost. SRCM appeared confident of sustaining cost leadership with plans to increase green power mix to ~63% (vs ~56% currently) and improve rail freight mix to 20-25% (vs 10% currently) over the next 2-3 years. However, the underlying weakness in cement prices is leading to 10%/4% cut in our FY25/26E EBITDA, respectively. Further, we lower our EV/EBITDA multiple to 16x (vs 17x earlier) to bring it at par with industry leader UltraTech Cement given similar RoE (13-14%) and EBITDA growth profile. Maintain HOLD with a revised TP of INR 27,085 (vs INR 29,489 earlier).

Industry-leading performance, sustained

SRCM's volume at 9.53mn tonnes rose 8% YoY (7% QoQ) while realisation (adjusted to merchant power revenue of INR 4.4bn) slipped 4.4% QoQ – both of which were 1% better than expected. However, costs sprung in a positive surprise with - a) 'other expenses' coming off 13% QoQ (up just 7% YoY); b) freight cost/t and staff cost staying flat QoQ and c) with controlled variable cost, overall cement cost/t fell 6% QoQ (down 12% YoY). As a result, EBITDA/t (adjusted for merchant power EBITDA of INR 44mn) at INR 1,347 stood flat QoQ (up 45% YoY). FY24 volume surged 12% YoY and we maintain our assumption of 10% CAGR growth over FY25-26E. FY24 EBITDA/t stood at INR 1,185 (up 32% YoY) and on revised forecast, we estimate it at INR 1,152 for FY25E and INR 1,307 for FY26E.

Rich valuation amidst sectoral pangs; maintain HOLD

SRCM's focus on capacity expansion (ongoing projects to increase capacity at 19% CAGR over FY25-FY26) and efficiency enhancement (pursuing increase in green power and rail-freight mix) is heartening. Balance sheet, too, remains strong with net cash of ~INR 60bn for FY24. However, factoring the uncertain cement price outlook, amidst industry-wide race for capacity share, we now value SRCM at 16x FY26E EV/EBIDTA (vs 17x earlier; bringing it at par with industry leader UltraTech Cement) and maintain HOLD with a revised TP of INR 27,085 (INR 29,489 earlier).

Financial Summary

Y/E March (INR mn)	FY23A	FY24P	FY25E	FY26E
Net Revenue	1,68,375	1,95,855	2,01,378	2,28,382
EBITDA	29,423	43,635	46,034	57,608
EBITDA (%)	17.5	22.3	22.9	25.2
Net Profit	11,739	24,684	27,039	34,520
EPS (INR)	325.3	684.2	749.4	956.8
EPS % Chg YoY	(48.3)	110.3	9.5	27.7
P/E (x)	79.4	37.7	34.5	27.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	29.7	20.0	19.2	15.4
RoCE (%) (post-tax)	5.4	10.4	10.6	12.6
RoE (%)	6.6	12.8	12.5	14.2

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Market Data

Dries Dorformana (06)	2 6 12
ADTV-3M (mn) (USD)	12.2
Free Float (%)	37.0
52-week Range (INR)	30,738 /22,601
Reuters Code	SHCM.BO
Bloomberg Code	SRCM IN
Market Cap (USD)	11,156mn
Market Cap (INR)	932bn

Price Performance (%)	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(1.9)	(1.5)	5.0
Relative to Sensex	(3.2)	(12.6)	(12.1)

Earnings Revisions (%)	FY25E	FY26E
Revenue	(2.9)	(2.9)
EBITDA	(10.0)	(4.3)
EPS	(2.6)	5.5

Previous Reports

01-02-2024: Q3FY24 results review 09-11-2023: Q2FY24 results review



Conference call takeaways

Demand/volume

- In FY24, cement capacity utilisation improved from 70% to 77% on a YoY basis, while utilisation in Q4FY24 stood at 79% (vs 77% YoY). In Q4FY24, SRCM witnessed production loss of 3-4 days (impact of ~4LT due to IT upgradation and rebranding activities) sans which utilisation could have reached 80%.
- Volume guidance for FY25 stands at 39-40mt (implying ~11% YoY volume growth).
 SRCM expects demand to pick-up in H2FY24.
- Region-wise growth for SRCM in Q4FY24 stood as below:

Region	YoY basis
North India	+5%
South India	Negative 9-10%
East India	+20%
Overall	+7%

Pricing

- Cement prices in Q1FY25-TD, as compared to Q4FY24-exit prices, have been broadly flat with negative bias.
- Q4FY24 cement realisation stood at INR 4,721/t vs INR 4,848/t in Q4FY23 and INR 5,006/t in Q3FY24. Likewise, in FY24, cement realisation stood at INR 4,833/t vs INR 4,872/t in FY23.
- SRCM aims to increase the premium cement share to 12-15% (of total trade sales) as its premium brand 'Magna' gains traction in respective markets.

Cost

- Q4FY24 fuel consumption cost: INR 1.82/'000kcal vs INR 1.76/'000kcal QoQ. Going ahead, SRCM expects fuel cost to remain broadly flat.
- SRCM has ~14LT (as on Mar'24 end) of coal inventory which shall suffice ~4 months of fuel requirement.
- In Q4FY24, SRCM commissioned green power capacity of ~ 80MW, taking the total green power capacity to ~480MW (~386 MW in FY23).
- Further, the company plans to add 188MW of green power over the next two years.
- The break-up of the green power capacity addition is 34MW WHRS and 154MW solar power.
- Commissioning timelines of the above green power capacities are: 34MW WHRS
 and 114MW of solar power capacity in FY25 and balance 40MW of solar power
 capacity in FY26.
- During FY24, the share of green power consumption in total power consumption increased to 55.9% against 51.1% YoY; green power consumption stood at 54% in Q4FY24.
- SRCM aims to achieve green power share of 62-63% of total power consumption in medium term.
- Other expenses were lower sequentially due to (1) deferment of brand building/advertisement expenses and (2) lower unit spares cost (production loss of 3-4 days).



- SRCM aims to connect each manufacturing plant with railway sidings by FY28. It aims to increase the share of rail freight to 25% from 12% currently.
- Freight cost via road is ~INR 3/t/km and via rail is ~INR 2.6/t/km. Typically, rail freight generates 10-12% of cost savings vs road freight.
- Q4FY24: Lead distance dropped to 435kms vs 457kms QoQ.

Exhibit 1: Power segment EBITDA is usually 9-10% of power turnover

Power segment (INR mn)	Q4FY24	FY24
Revenue	~4,400	~16,130
EBITDA	~440	~1,550

Source: Company data

Capex

- SRCM shall be spending ~INR 120bn as capex on cumulative basis till FY27; it is evenly spread out over FY25-27 (~INR 40-45bn/annum).
- SRCM aims to commission ~9mtpa of cement capacity in FY25, taking the total installed capacity to 65.8mtpa. Further, it aims to achieve ~75mtpa of cement capacity in India on completion of the ongoing work on 18mtpa cement capacity.
- Commissioning of Etah, UP grinding unit is likely by Mar'25.
- Shree Cement has added cement capacity at ~17% CAGR against demand CAGR of ~7% between FY01 and FY23.

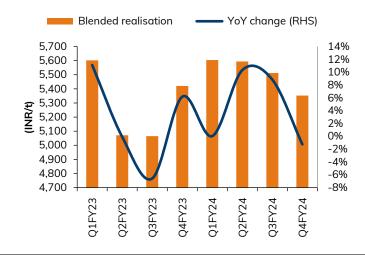
Others

- The company guided for depreciation expenses at INR 15-16bn in FY25. Depreciation was higher in Q4FY24 due to commissioning of Nawalgarh, Rajasthan plant in Jan'24.
- SRCM has ~INR 50bn of net cash, as on Mar 31, '24.
- Over the next two years, SRCM aims to achieve ~INR 1bn of annual revenue/annum in RMC segment with 5-6% margin.
- It aims for 100 RMC plants in next 4-5 years.

Exhibit 2: Quarterly volumes trend

YoY change (RHS) Volumes 11.0 25% 10.0 20% 9.0 15% mt) 8.0 10% 7.0 5% 6.0 5.0 0% 24FY23 Q2FY24 Q3FY24 Q1FY23 Q2FY23 **33FY23** Q1FY24 Q4FY24

Exhibit 3: Quarterly realisation trend

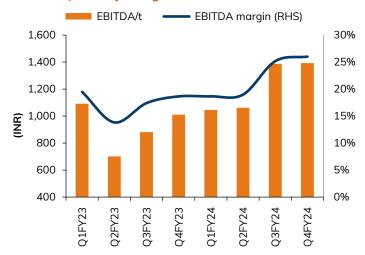


Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

FICICI Securities

Exhibit 4: Quarterly margin trend - Standalone



Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 5: Break-up of total cost - Standalone



Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 6: Q4FY24 earnings review (standalone)

INR mn	Q4FY24	Q4FY23	YoY (%)	Q3FY24	QoQ (%)	Q4FY24E	% Variance
Net Sales	51,010	47,851	6.6	49,008	4.1	48,372	5.5
Net Volumes (mt)	9.53	8.83	8.0	8.89	7.2	9.44	0.9
Blended realisations (INR/t)	5,353	5,420	(1.3)	5,513	(2.91)	5,123	4.5
Raw Materials	3,608	4,312	(16.3)	4,393	(17.9)	4,666	(22.7)
Personnel Cost	2,352	2,209	6.5	2,347	0.2	2,363	(0.5)
Power and Fuel	14,490	15,729	(7.9)	12,381	17.0	12,562	15.3
Freight and forwarding	10,451	10,308	1.4	9,732	7.4	10,480	(0.3)
Other Expenses	6,838	6,369	7.4	7,819	(12.6)	7,841	(12.8)
Total Expenses	37,738	38,927	(3.1)	36,671	2.9	37,912	(0.5)
EBITDA	13,272	8,925	48.7	12,337	7.6	10,460	26.9
EBITDA/t (INR)	1,393	1,011	37.8	1,388	0.4	1,108	25.7
Interest	648	726	(10.8)	561	15.4	561	15.4
Depreciation	6,281	4,419	42.1	3,466	81.2	3,476	80.7
Other Income	1,379	1,353	1.9	1,354	1.8	1,379	(0.0)
Recurring pre-tax income	7,722	5,132	50.5	9,664	(20.1)	7,802	(1.0)
Extraordinary income/(expense)	-	-		-		-	
Taxation	1,105	(330)	NA	2,322	(52.4)	1,951	(43.4)
Reported Net Income	6,618	5,462	21.2	7,342	(9.9)	5,852	13.1
Recurring Net Income	6,618	5,462	21.2	7,342	(9.9)	5,852	13.1
% Margins			bps		bps		bps
EBITDA	26.0	18.7	737	25.2	85	21.6	439
PAT	13.0	11.4	156	15.0	-201	12.1	88

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 7: Historical quarterly analysis on per-tonne basis (standalone)

Per tonne (INR/t)	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24
Blended Realisation*	5,420	5,604	5,594	5,513	5,353
Raw materials consumed	488	635	561	500	380
Power & fuel	1,782	1,708	1,671	1,393	1,520
Freight cost	1,168	1,192	1,160	1,095	1,097
Staff cost	250	263	285	264	247
Other expenses	721	750	861	880	717
Total cost/t	4,409	4,559	4,533	4,125	3,960
Blended EBITDA/t	1,011	1,045	1,062	1,388	1,393

Source: I-Sec research, Company data; * including power



Exhibit 8: Per tonne estimate – annual (standalone)

(INR/t)	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Cement realisation	5,004	4,986	5,058	4,908	5,039
Raw material consumed	410	396	515	455	464
Staff costs	291	272	264	267	268
Power & fuel	1,011	1,467	1,160	1,124	1,075
Freight	1,169	1,173	1,135	1,100	1,119
Others	833	783	799	811	806
Total operating expenses	3,842	4,367	4,284	4,018	3,957
Cement EBITDA/t	1,290	894	1,185	1,152	1,307

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 9: Performance trend and key assumptions (standalone)

Particulars	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Cement capacity (mtpa)	46.4	46.4	53.4	56.4	71.8
Cement sales volumes (mt)	27.7	31.8	35.5	38.7	43.2
Capacity utilisation (%)	59.8	68.6	66.5	68.6	60.1
Volume growth (%)	3.3%	14.7%	11.7%	8.8%	11.6%
Cement realisation blended (INR/t)	5,004	4,986	5,058	4,908	5,039
Growth (%)	7.9%	-0.4%	1.5%	-3.0%	2.7%

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 10: Earnings revision

(INR mn)		FY25E			FY26E	
(/	Revised	Earlier	% chg	Revised	Earlier	% chg
Revenues	2,01,378	2,07,458	(2.9)	2,28,382	2,35,169	(2.9)
EBITDA	46,034	51,144	(10.0)	57,608	60,190	(4.3)
PAT	27,039	27,767	(2.6)	34,520	32,727	5.5

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 11: Valuation based on 16x Mar'26E EV/E

Particulars (INR mn)	Mar'26E
EV/EBITDA multiple (x)	16.0
EBITDA	58,108
Enterprise Value (EV)	9,29,729
Less: Net Debt	(47,493)
Derived Mcap	9,77,222
Shares o/s (mn)	36.1
Value per share (INR)	27,085

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

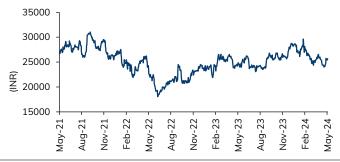
Key risks

- Sharp increase in cement prices and/or sharp fuel cost decline are key upside risks.
- Sharp fall/reversal in recent hikes of cement prices and/or major surge in fuel prices are key downside risks.

Exhibit 12: Shareholding pattern

%	Sep'23	Dec'23	Mar'24
Promoters	62.6	62.6	62.6
Institutional investors	24.8	24.9	24.8
MFs and others	7.7	7.7	7.6
Fls/Banks, Insurance	4.5	4.4	4.4
FIIs	12.6	12.7	12.9
Others	12.7	12.6	12.6

Exhibit 13: Price chart



Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research

Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research



Financial Summary

Exhibit 14: Profit & Loss

(INR mn, year ending March)

	FY23A	FY24P	FY25E	FY26E
Net Sales	1,68,375	1,95,855	2,01,378	2,28,382
Operating Expenses	1,26,354	1,33,903	1,37,763	1,50,753
EBITDA	29,423	43,635	46,034	57,608
EBITDA Margin (%)	17.5	22.3	22.9	25.2
Depreciation & Amortization	15,462	16,147	15,523	17,179
EBIT	13,961	27,489	30,511	40,429
Interest expenditure	2,689	2,643	1,842	1,857
Other Non-operating Income	4,315	5,611	5,130	4,578
Recurring PBT	17,129	30,456	33,798	43,150
Profit / (Loss) from Associates	-	-	-	-
Less: Taxes	3,848	5,772	6,760	8,630
PAT	13,281	24,684	27,039	34,520
Less: Minority Interest	-	-	-	-
Extraordinaries (Net)	(1,543)	-	-	-
Net Income (Reported) Net Income (Adjusted)	13,281 11,739	24,684 24,684	27,039 27,039	34,520 34,520

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 15: Balance sheet

(INR mn, year ending March)

	FY23A	FY24P	FY25E	FY26E
Total Current Assets	86,466	1,10,722	99,983	99,095
of which cash & cash eqv.	34,700	54,756	42,424	40,051
Total Current Liabilities &	46,514	45,702	46,009	47,030
Provisions	40,514	45,702	40,009	47,030
Net Current Assets	39,952	65,020	53,974	52,065
Investments	82,999	54,499	54,499	54,499
Net Fixed Assets	53,327	77,680	1,19,157	1,49,478
ROU Assets	-	-	-	-
Capital Work-in-Progress	28,709	18,209	11,209	13,709
Total Intangible Assets	-	-	-	-
Other assets	-	-	-	-
Deferred Tax assets	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	2,04,987	2,15,408	2,38,839	2,69,751
Liabilities				
Borrowings	25,392	14,737	14,737	14,737
Deferred Tax Liability	(6,686)	(6,686)	(6,686)	(6,686)
provisions	-	-	-	-
other Liabilities	3,396	3,396	3,396	3,396
Equity Share Capital	361	361	361	361
Reserves & Surplus	1,82,524	2,03,600	2,27,031	2,57,943
Total Net Worth	1,82,884	2,03,961	2,27,391	2,58,304
Minority Interest	-	-	-	-
Total Liabilities	2,04,987	2,15,408	2,38,839	2,69,751

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 16: Quarterly trend

(INR mn, year ending March)

	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24
Net Sales	49,991	45,846	49,008	51,010
% growth (YoY)	18.9	21.3	20.4	6.6
EBITDA	9,326	8,701	12,337	13,272
Margin %	18.7	19.0	25.2	26.0
Other Income	1,617	1,261	1,354	1,379
Extraordinaries	-	-	-	-
Adjusted Net Profit	5,811	4,913	7,342	6,618

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 17: Cashflow statement

(INR mn, year ending March)

	FY23A	FY24P	FY25E	FY26E
Operating Cashflow	29,363	45,535	47,770	59,158
Working Capital Changes	(2,320)	(22,760)	(8,046)	(9,094)
Capital Commitments	(27,619)	(30,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)
Free Cashflow	-576	-7,226	-10,276	64
Other investing cashflow	3,530	13,524	55,588	3,029
Cashflow from Investing Activities	(24,089)	(16,476)	5,588	(46,971)
Issue of Share Capital	-	-	-	-
Interest Cost	-	-	-	-
Inc (Dec) in Borrowings	-	-	-	-
Dividend paid	(3,245)	(3,608)	(3,608)	(3,608)
Others	94	(1,321)	(1,842)	(1,857)
Cash flow from Financing Activities	(3,151)	(4,929)	(5,450)	(5,465)
Chg. in Cash & Bank balance	(196)	1,369	39,862	(2,372)
Closing cash & balance	1,193	2,562	42,424	40,051

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 18: Key ratios

(Year ending March)

	FY23A	FY24P	FY25E	FY26E
Per Share Data (INR)				
Reported EPS	325.3	684.2	749.4	956.8
Adjusted EPS (Diluted)	325.3	684.2	749.4	956.8
Cash EPS	753.9	1,131.7	1,179.7	1,432.9
Dividend per share (DPS)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Book Value per share (BV)	5,068.9	5,653.0	6,302.4	7,159.2
Dividend Payout (%)	30.7	14.6	13.3	10.5
Growth (%)				
Net Sales	17.7	16.3	2.8	13.4
EBITDA	(19.3)	48.3	5.5	25.1
EPS (INR)	(48.3)	110.3	9.5	27.7
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	79.4	37.7	34.5	27.0
P/CEPS	34.2	22.8	21.9	18.0
P/BV	5.1	4.6	4.1	3.6
EV / EBITDA	29.7	20.0	19.2	15.4
EV/t (USD)	227.9	197.5	201.0	156.3
Dividend Yield (%)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Operating Ratios				
Gross Profit Margins (%)	92.5	90.6	91.3	91.2
EBITDA Margins (%)	17.5	22.3	22.9	25.2
Effective Tax Rate (%)	22.5	19.0	20.0	20.0
Net Profit Margins (%)	7.9	12.6	13.4	15.1
NWC / Total Assets (%)	19.5	30.2	22.6	19.3
Net Debt / Equity (x)	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.4)	(0.3)
Net Debt / EBITDA (x)	(3.1)	(2.2)	(1.8)	(1.4)
Profitability Ratios				
RoCE (%) (Post Tax)	5.4	10.4	10.6	12.6
RoE (%)	6.6	12.8	12.5	14.2
RoIC (%)	8.6	15.9	15.7	16.6
Fixed Asset Turnover (x)	3.2	3.0	2.0	1.7
Inventory Turnover Days	72	78	77	75
Receivables Days	21	18	18	17
Payables Days	34	26	26	26
Source Company data, I-Sec resea	arch			



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