

July 7, 2024

Exhibit 1: PL Universe

Companies	Rating	CMP (Rs)	TP (Rs)
Hindalco Industries	BUY	698	796
Jindal Stainless	Reduce	827	712
Jindal Steel & Power	Acc	1,051	1,006
JSW Steel	Acc	951	1,026
National Aluminium Co.	Sell	199	142
NMDC	Acc	252	276
Steel Authority of India	Sell	156	134
Tata Steel	Acc	175	186

Source: PL

Acc=Accumulate

Top Picks

Hindalco Industries

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Metals & Mining

Apr-Jun'24 Earnings Preview

Muted quarter affected by weak NSR

We expect our metals coverage universe to report mixed performance in 1QFY25 with revenue/EBITDA/PAT growth of -2%/3%/6% QoQ (2%/11%/7% YoY) impacted by muted demand and weak steel prices. Domestic demand remained muted (3-5% YoY) during the quarter affected by infrastructure slowdown amidst general elections. Average NSR for domestic steel companies improved 1-2% QoQ mainly aided by long products (TMT). Flat steel prices declined by Rs500-700/t QoQ affected by weak global pricing, while long product prices have improved 8-9% from March levels. Further, coking coal prices have declined sharply (-22%) QoQ, which is expected to benefit steel players from 2QFY25. Domestic steel pricing scenario is expected to remain sluggish during monsoon and amid the impending Union budget. Imports have reduced since Jan; however, higher Chinese supply poses a threat to global pricing. Base metal prices have increased sharp 10-15% QoQ during 1Q post LME banning Russian supplies, which is expected to benefit non-ferrous companies in FY25. Key monitorables to watch out are: 1) Gol's stand on rising imports, 2) sustenance of HRC/coking coal prices, 3) progress on capex and 4) demand indicators from China & developed countries. Our top pick is Hindalco.

Mixed performance for steel: Steel companies having higher longs exposure are expected to benefit from higher pricing during 1QFY25. HRC prices continued the downward trend due to falling global prices. As global prices have fallen 3-4% QoQ, domestic HRC prices are trading at 4-5% premium on import parity basis. Sales volumes for the steel universe have declined 5-10% QoQ (+3-5% YoY), which is expected to impact operating leverage. Benefits of lower coking coal prices would be partially negated by higher iron ore prices for steel players. Resultant, EBITDA per ton would see marginal QoQ improvement of Rs400-1200/t for steel players.

We expect NMDC to deliver 8% QoQ increase in EBITDA/t to Rs1,818/t on higher pricing, although volumes were impacted due to employee strike during May. We expect sequential improvement in Jindal Stainless' (JDSL) EBITDA/t, to reach Rs16,254 (+12% QoQ) aided by higher stainless steel prices.

Sharp rally in LME prices to benefit non-ferrous companies: Performance of non-ferrous companies under our universe is expected to improve substantially on sharp 15% QoQ jump in average aluminum prices (+11% YoY); although volumes to get normalized. Hindalco India volumes are expected to remain flat YoY, while that of Novelis is expected to grow 8% YoY to ~950kt. NALCO's metal/alumina volumes are expected to improve ~1/5% YoY; while ramping up of captive coal mines and higher alumina prices (~11% QoQ) is expected to benefit FY25E EBITDA.

Key changes in estimates/ratings:

Ferrous companies: We raise our FY25/26E EBITDA estimates for steel companies under coverage by 3-5% given the recent sharp fall in coking coal prices. We downgrade JDSL from **Hold** to **Reduce** rating (with no change in estimates and TP) given the recent sharp runup in stock price, near-term weakness in stainless steel pricing, muted global demand and rich valuations. Although domestic demand remains strong, higher imports from China/ Indonesia is affecting domestic pricing and, in turn, affecting near term EBITDA/t. Would wait for better entry point.

July 7, 2024



Non-ferrous companies: We raise our FY25/26E EBITDA estimates for aluminum companies under coverage given the recent 15% QoQ jump in LME aluminum prices. For every USD100/t increase in LME price assumption, NACL's EPS gets upgraded by 10.4%, while HNDL's EPS gets upgraded by 5.6%. We have raised our FY25/26E EBITDA estimates for **NACL** by 12%/4% respectively on assumption of higher alumina/ metal prices. Maintain '**Sell**' with a revised TP of Rs142 (earlier Rs141). For **Hindalco**, we have raised our FY25/26E EBITDA estimates by ~2% each on higher aluminum price assumption. Maintain '**buy**' with revised a TP of Rs796 (earlier Rs779).

Top Pick:

Hindalco Industries: HNDL is well placed amongst our metals universe as a) Novelis is expected to witness gradual improvement in per ton EBITDA over next the few quarters (given resilient developed economies and gradual improvement in consumer demand from China); and b) softer thermal coal prices, opening of captive coal mines, rising focus on high margin value added products and sharp jump in LME prices are expected to benefit India business.

Exhibit 2: Volumes to decline QoQ on high base and muted demand

	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24	2QFY24	3QFY24	4QFY24	1QFY25E	YoY gr.	QoQ gr.
TATA India	4,910	4,740	5,150	4,790	4,820	4,880	5,420	4,955	3%	-9%
JSW	5,010	4,950	5,680	4,930	5,410	5,200	5,690	5,127	4%	-10%
SAIL	4,210	4,151	4,680	3,884	4,770	3,810	4,560	4,078	5%	-11%
JSP	2,010	1,900	2,030	1,840	2,010	1,810	2,010	1,914	4%	-5%
NMDC	8,432	9,580	12,410	10,975	9,571	11,394	12,510	10,080	-8%	-19%
JDSL	433	468	508	549	544	512	570	582	6%	2%

Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 3: NSR to witness 1-2% QoQ increase aided by Long product prices

Realisations (Rs/t)	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24	2QFY24	3QFY24	4QFY24	1QFY25E	YoY gr.	QoQ gr.
TATA India	70,556	71,581	73,880	72,427	70,924	71,069	67,592	68,200	-6%	1%
JSW	64,858	62,495	65,410	66,513	62,362	64,058	62,111	62,410	-6%	0%
SAIL	62,343	60,327	62,245	62,713	58,625	61,274	58,162	59,325	-5%	2%
JSP	65,209	62,275	65,972	66,905	60,108	63,624	68,524	69,552	4%	1%
NMDC	3,890	3,826	4,669	4,851	4,145	4,679	5,138	5,331	10%	4%
JDSL	197,606	192,385	186,046	182,776	178,808	177,486	166,925	171,098	-6%	2%

Source: Company, PL

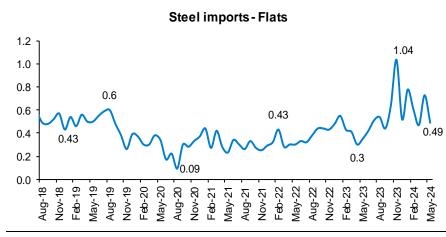
Exhibit 4: EBITDA per ton to witness marginal improvement QoQ due to weak NSR

EBITDA/ton (Rs)	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24	2QFY24	3QFY24	4QFY24	1QFY25E	YoY gr.	QoQ gr.
TATA India	9,503	10,835	16,806	13,808	14,248	16,905	14,846	13,946	1%	-6%
JSW	3,477	8,141	10,998	9,860	12,750	11,113	7,807	8,231	-17%	5%
SAIL	1,740	5,003	6,226	4,241	4,444	5,617	4,472	5,839	38%	31%
JSP	9,183	11,864	10,594	14,496	11,632	15,184	12,608	13,875	-4%	10%
NMDC	1,009	1,191	1,742	1,816	1,244	1,762	1,680	1,894	4%	13%
JDSL	16,045	20,246	21,611	20,375	19,679	19,937	14,505	16,254	-20%	12%

Source: Company, PL

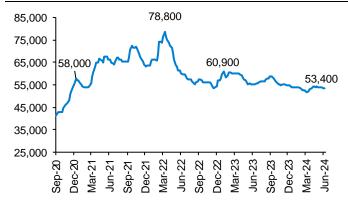


Exhibit 5: Imports have declined post recent uptick in Jan'24



Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 6: Avg. Indian HRC prices declined by Rs100/t QoQ



Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 7: Avg. China HRC prices declined 5% QoQ (USD/t)



Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 8: Iron Ore Fines (62%) declined 9.6% QoQ (USD/t)



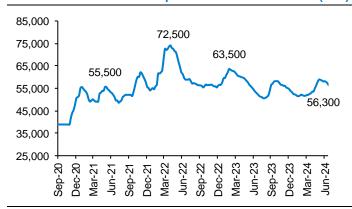
Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 9: Coking Coal prices declined ~22% QoQ (USD/t)



Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 10: Exhibit 8: Rebar prices increased 10% QoQ (Rs/t)



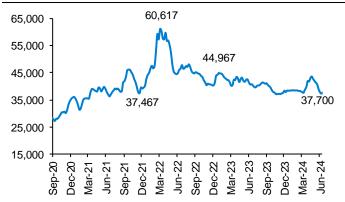
Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 11: Sponge iron avg. prices increased 8% QoQ (Rs/t)



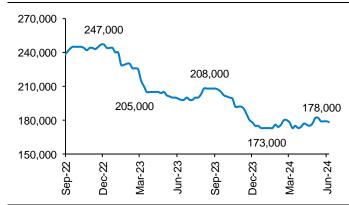
Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 12: Avg. Pig iron prices increased ~6% QoQ (Rs/t)



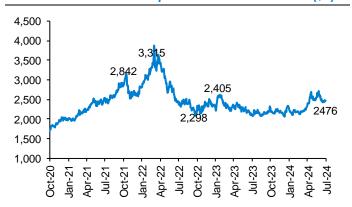
Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 13: SS 304 grade prices increased 1.3% QoQ (Rs/t)



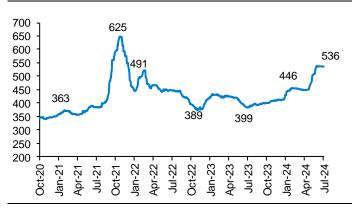
Source: SteelMint, PL

Exhibit 14: LME aluminum prices increased 15% QoQ (\$/t)



Source: PL

Exhibit 15: Spot alumina (E. China) grew ~11% QoQ (USD/t)



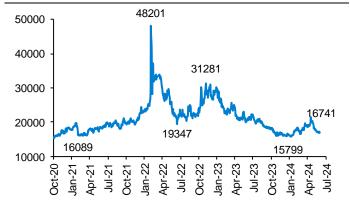
Source: PL

July 7, 2024

Exhibit 16: LME copper prices increased ~3% QoQ (USD/t)



Exhibit 17: LME nickel prices increased ~11% QoQ (USD/t)



Source: PL Source: PL

Exhibit 18: Q1FY25 Result Preview (Rs bn

Exhibit 18: Q1FY25 Result Preview (Rs bn)											
Company Name		Q1FY25E	Q1FY24	YoY gr. (%)	Q4FY24	QoQ gr. (%)	Remark				
	Sales	591.4	529.9	11.6	559.9	5.6	Average LME AL/alumina prices are up 15%/11% QoQ to				
Hindalco	EBITDA	81.2	57.1	42.1	66.8		benefit India ops. with flattish operating costs; volumes to normalise QoQ with copper volumes assumed at ~120kt				
Industries	Margin (%)	13.7	10.8	295 bps	11.9	180 bps	while AL volumes at 330kt. Novelis performance to				
	PBT	55.0	33.3	65.2	41.4		improve 8% QoQ on flattish volumes (~950kt) & EBITDA/t of ~USD516/t.				
	Adj. PAT	42.8	24.8	72.8	31.8	34.8	01~03D316/t.				
	Sales	104.7	101.8	2.8	94.5	10.8	Expect volumes to grow at ~6% YoY to ~582kt aided by				
Jindal Stainless	EBITDA	11.5	11.9	(3.7)	10.4	10.9	domestic contribution, NSR to improve 2.5% QoQ to				
	PBT	11.0	11.7	-75 bps	10.9	1 bps 19.8	~Rs171k/t (-6% YoY); expect standalone EBITDA/t in the range of Rs16k-16.5k for 1QFY25; consolidated EBITDA				
	Adj. PAT	8.4 6.3	9.5 7.5	(11.1) (15.2)	7.0 5.0	19.8 26.4	to grow 11% QoQ aided by subs.				
	Sales	136.0	125.9	8.0	134.9	0.8					
	EBITDA			0.2	24.4	7.7	Expect ~1.5% QoQ improvement in NSR as TMT bar				
Jindal Steel &		26.3	26.3				prices increased in 1QFY25; steel volumes to decline				
Power	Margin (%)	19.4	20.9	-151 bps	18.1	•	~5% QoQ to 1.92mt as demand remained muted; EBITDA/t to see improvement of ~Rs1200 QoQ to				
	PBT	17.0	17.7	(3.7)	11.6	46.3	~Rs13,875.				
	Adj. PAT	12.0	16.9	(28.7)	9.4	28.6					
	Sales	426.8	422.1	1.1	462.7	(7.8)	Expect flat NSR sequentailly as HRC prices declined				
	EBITDA	55.9	70.5	(20.7)	61.2	(8.7)	during the quarter along with export prices; export volumes ~10% (lower from 20% in 4Q); std volume to				
JSW Steel	Margin (%)	13.1	16.7	-359 bps	13.2	-14 bps	grow 4% YoY to ~5.13mt (incl. BPSL ~5.9mt); EBITDA/t to				
	PBT	18.9	35.1	(46.4)	21.1	(10.7)	improve by meagre Rs424 QoQ to ~Rs8,231 on account of weak NSR and lower operating leverage.				
	Adj. PAT	11.7	23.4	(50.2)	13.0	(10.3)	· · · · · ·				
	Sales	38.2	31.8	20.2	35.8	6.7					
National	EBITDA	11.8	5.9	98.9	11.1	6.7	Expect alumina and metal volumes to grow ~5% & 1%				
National Aluminium Co.	Margin (%)	30.9	18.7	1224 bps	30.9	0 bps	YoY to ~290kt & 118kt respectively; EBITDA to grow 99% YoY on higher alumina/metal prices & lower operating				
	PBT	10.0	4.7	111.6	9.4	5.7	cost aided by higher captive coal supplies.				
	Adj. PAT	7.1	3.5	104.4	10.2	(29.7)					
	Sales	54.5	53.9	1.1	64.9	(16.0)					
	EBITDA	18.3	19.9	(8.1)	21.0	(12.8)	Iron ore volume of 10.1mt (-19% QoQ) affected by employee strike; expect realisation to improve ~4% QoQ				
NMDC	Margin (%)	33.6	37.0	-335 bps	32.4	122 bps	(+10% YoY) to Rs 5,331/t as NMDC had taken price hikes				
	PBT	18.1	22.1	(18.3)	23.9	(24.4)	earlier. We factor in EBITDA/t to increase 8% QoQ to Rs1,818/t.				
	Adj. PAT	13.0	16.6	(21.7)	14.3	(9.3)	1.31,010/1.				
	j ,	10.0	10.0	()	1 1.5	(0.0)					



Company Name		Q1FY25E	Q1FY24	YoY gr. (%)	Q4FY24	QoQ gr. (%) Remark
	Sales	241.9	243.6	(0.7)	265.2	(8.8)
Steel Authority of India	EBITDA	23.8	16.5	44.6	20.4	16.8 Expect ~2% QoQ increase in NSR as few long product prices (TMT) improved sharply in 1QFY25; expect
	Margin (%)	9.8	6.8	308 bps	7.7	215 bps volumes to decline ~11% QoQ to 4mt (+4.5% YoY); with
	PBT	7.6	2.0	274.2	3.9	91.6 lower coking coal prices expect EBITDA/t to see improvement of ~Rs1,300 QoQ to ~Rs5,617/t.
	Adj. PAT	5.6	1.5	273.6	10.1	(44.6)
	Sales	560.2	594.9	(5.8)	586.9	(4.5) Expect flattish QoQ NSR at TSI; volumes to grow ~3-4%
	EBITDA	59.7	51.7	15.4	66.0	(9.5) YOY to 4.97mt; EBITDA/t to see marginal decline of
Tata Steel	Margin (%)	10.7	8.7	196 bps	11.2	-59 bps Rs900 QoQ to ~Rs13,946/t. TSE contribution to improve QoQ on higher volumes from TSN; expect TSN to become
	PBT	17.0	21.1	(19.5)	23.7	(28.1) profitable in 1Q with EBITDA/t of GBP30/t and TSUK
	Adj. PAT	8.7	6.3	37.7	7.9	10.3 EBITDA loss of GBP140/t.

Source: Company, PL



Exhibit 19: Valuation Summary

Company Names	Company Names S/C Rating		CMP			Sales (Rs bn)			EBITDA (Rs bn)			PAT (Rs bn)				EPS (Rs)		RoE (%)				PE (x)						
Company Names			(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs bn)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY23	FY24 I	FY25E I	Y26E	FY23	FY24 F	Y25E F	Y26E	FY23	FY24 F	Y25E F	-Y26E
Hindalco Industries	С	BUY	698	796	1,550.2	2,232.0	2,159.6	2,390.3	2,589.6	228.9	242.5	315.2	348.9	101.0	101.4	156.3	175.5	45.5	45.7	70.4	79.1	11.7	10.1	13.8	13.6	15.4	15.3	9.9	8.8
Jindal Stainless	С	Reduce	827	712	681.2	357.0	385.6	530.0	640.0	35.9	47.0	63.8	84.6	21.1	26.4	37.4	52.7	25.7	32.1	45.4	64.0	19.4	20.1	23.2	25.9	32.2	25.8	18.2	12.9
Jindal Steel & Power	С	Acc	1,051	1,006	1,053.0	527.1	500.3	561.6	680.2	99.3	102.0	133.4	176.2	45.2	59.4	74.9	99.6	45.0	59.2	74.7	99.4	12.2	14.3	15.6	17.7	23.4	17.7	14.1	10.6
JSW Steel	С	Acc	951	1,026	2,299.3	1,659.6	1,750.1	2,056.4	2,412.8	185.5	282.4	392.5	450.5	35.5	82.2	160.7	190.9	14.7	34.0	66.5	79.0	5.3	11.5	18.9	19.0	64.7	28.0	14.3	12.0
National Aluminium Co.	S	Sell	199	142	365.5	142.6	131.5	149.4	160.6	24.5	28.7	44.2	46.9	15.4	20.6	29.6	30.5	8.4	11.2	16.1	16.6	12.0	14.8	18.9	17.2	23.7	17.7	12.4	12.0
NMDC	S	Acc	252	276	739.4	176.7	213.1	247.7	287.1	60.5	72.9	84.8	112.7	46.4	57.7	67.2	86.5	15.8	19.7	22.9	29.5	22.8	23.9	24.2	26.7	15.9	12.8	11.0	8.5
Steel Authority of India	S	Sell	156	134	642.8	1,044.5	1,027.5	1,103.2	1,224.3	80.2	85.1	139.2	153.6	17.2	14.1	50.7	59.7	4.2	3.4	12.3	14.5	3.3	2.7	9.0	9.8	37.4	45.6	12.7	10.8
Tata Steel	С	Acc	175	186	2,179.4	2,433.5	2,291.7	2,516.3	2,913.8	323.0	323.8	365.6	498.4	87.1	134.5	156.4	253.3	7.1	10.8	12.5	20.3	8.0	13.8	16.0	22.2	24.5	16.2	13.9	8.6

Source: Company, PL

S=Standalone / C=Consolidated / Acc=Accumulate

Exhibit 20: Change in Estimates

	Rating Target Price			Sales							PAT					EPS								
	Kati	ing	raigetrice			FY25E				FY26E			FY25E			FY26E			FY25E			FY26E		
	С	P	С	Р	% Chng.	С	Р	% Chng.	С	Р	% Chng.	С	Р	% Chng.	С	Р	% Chng.	С	Р	% Chng.	С	P Chng		
Hindalco Industries	BUY	BUY	796	779	2.2%	2,390.3	2,417.0	-1.1%	2,589.6	2,612.2	-0.9%	156.3	153.0	2.1%	175.5	171.4	2.4%	70.4	68.9	2.1%	79.1	77.2 2.4%		
Jindal Stainless	Reduce	Hold	712	712	0.0%	530.0	530.0	0.0%	640.0	640.0	0.0%	37.4	37.4	0.0%	52.7	52.7	0.0%	45.4	45.4	0.0%	64.0	64.0 0.0%		
Jindal Steel & Power	Acc	Acc	1,006	987	1.9%	561.6	561.6	0.0%	680.2	680.2	0.0%	74.9	73.7	1.7%	99.6	96.9	2.8%	74.7	73.5	1.7%	99.4	96.6 2.8%		
JSW Steel	Acc	Acc	1,026	980	4.7%	2,056.4	2,056.4	0.0%	2,412.8	2,412.8	0.0%	160.7	153.1	5.0%	190.9	182.0	4.8%	66.5	63.3	5.0%	79.0	75.3 4.8%		
National Aluminium Co.	Sell	Sell	142	141	0.6%	149.4	141.2	5.8%	160.6	155.6	3.2%	29.6	25.2	17.5%	30.5	29.3	4.2%	16.1	13.7	17.5%	16.6	15.9 <i>4.2%</i>		
NMDC	Acc	Acc	276	279	-1.1%	247.7	252.1	-1.8%	287.1	292.3	-1.8%	67.2	71.8	-6.5%	86.5	87.3	-0.8%	22.9	24.5	-6.5%	29.5	29.8 -0.8%		
Steel Authority of India	Sell	Sell	134	127	5.5%	1,103.2	1,105.6	-0.2%	1,224.3	1,229.8	-0.4%	50.7	46.2	9.6%	59.7	56.8	5.1%	12.3	11.2	9.6%	14.5	13.8 5.1%		
Tata Steel	Acc	Acc	186	172	8.4%	2,516.3	2,515.1	0.0%	2,913.8	2,868.8	1.6%	156.4	154.5	1.2%	253.3	234.0	8.2%	12.5	12.4	1.2%	20.3	18.8 8.2%		

Source: Company, PL

C=Current / P=Previous / Acc=Accumulate



Analyst Coverage Universe

Sr. No.	Company Name	Rating	TP (Rs)	Share Price (Rs)
1	ACC	BUY	3,509	2,580
2	Ambuja Cement	Accumulate	697	674
3	Dalmia Bharat	Accumulate	2,077	1,806
4	Hindalco Industries	BUY	779	673
5	Jindal Stainless	Hold	712	680
6	Jindal Steel & Power	Accumulate	987	939
7	JSW Steel	Accumulate	980	902
8	National Aluminium Co.	Sell	141	183
9	NMDC	Accumulate	279	258
10	Nuvoco Vistas Corporation	Accumulate	384	335
11	Shree Cement	BUY	29,225	25,820
12	Steel Authority of India	Sell	127	174
13	Tata Steel	Accumulate	172	164
14	Ultratech Cement	BUY	11,608	9,964

PL's Recommendation Nomenclature

 Buy
 : > 15%

 Accumulate
 : 5% to 15%

 Hold
 : +5% to -5%

 Reduce
 : -5% to -15%

 Sell
 : < -15%</td>

Not Rated (NR) : No specific call on the stock Under Review (UR) : Rating likely to change shortly



ANALYST CERTIFICATION

(Indian Clients)

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