

30 July 2025

India | Equity Research | Results update

Varun Beverages

Consumer Staples & Discretionary

Unseasonal rain impacted volume; Profitability improved on efficiencies

Despite rising competitive intensity and lower volumes, Varun Beverages (VBL) delivered better-than-expected Q2CY25 profitability due to better control on overheads and favourable currency movement in the Africa market. Consolidated revenue/ volume declined 2%/ 3% YoY due to unseasonal rain in India (India revenue/ volume declined 9%/ 7% YoY). International business supported the overall performance, which remained resilient with 15% volume growth. Management remains optimistic on volume recovery in H2 (supported by a low base in India) and margin improvement on the back of operational efficiencies. That said, we remain cautious given the rising competitive intensity, which could restrict the medium-term performance. Maintain **HOLD**.

Muted summer in India; international remains resilient

VBL reported a 2.5% YoY revenue decline in Q2CY25, with consolidated revenue at INR 70.2bn, impacted by unseasonal rains in India. Domestic volumes declined 7.1% YoY, with lower throughput across most regions, while international volumes grew 15.1%, led by strong traction in Africa (South Africa +16.1%) and improved availability. Overall volume stood at 390 mn cases, down 3% YoY. CSD and Juice volume declined 5% and 12.5%, respectively. Water volume grew 12.7% YoY.

Net realisation per case improved 0.5% YoY at the consolidated level, driven by a 6.6% uptick in international markets. Category mix remained broadly stable with CSD contributing 75% of volumes, NCB at 7%, and packaged drinking water at 18%. Low-/no-sugar products contributed ~55% of consolidated sales volumes in H1, reflecting a shift towards healthier and higher-margin offerings. The quarter also saw the launch of PepsiCo's Cheetos in Morocco, marking an initial step toward building a complementary snacks portfolio in select overseas markets.

Financial Summary

Y/E Dec (INR mn)	CY24A	CY25E	CY26E	CY27E
Net Revenue	2,00,077	2,30,721	2,64,466	3,01,089
EBITDA	47,111	53,841	61,244	69,563
EBITDA Margin (%)	23.5	23.3	23.2	23.1
Net Profit	25,957	32,030	38,584	46,053
EPS (INR)	7.7	9.5	11.4	13.6
EPS % Chg YoY	21.1	23.4	20.5	19.4
P/E (x)	66.7	54.1	44.9	37.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	36.7	31.5	27.2	23.4
RoCE (%)	17.9	15.7	16.3	16.8
RoE (%)	21.8	17.6	18.1	18.4

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Market Data

Market Cap (INR)	1,732bn
Market Cap (USD)	19,952mn
Bloomberg Code	VBL IN
Reuters Code	VARB BO
52-week Range (INR)	683 /419
Free Float (%)	40.0
ADTV-3M (mn) (USD)	49.3

Price Performance (%)	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(3.2)	(5.4)	(24.0)
Relative to Sensex	(4.5)	(11.7)	(24.0)

ESG Score	2023	2024	Change
ESG score	63.2	64.5	1.3
Environment	43.8	51.5	7.7
Social	63.9	61.6	(2.3)
Governance	748	77 1	2.3

Note - Score ranges from 0 - 100 with a higher score indicating higher ESG disclosures.

Source: SES ESG, I-sec research

Earnings Revisions (%)	CY25E	CY26E
Revenue	(3.4)	(5.4)
EBITDA	(3.4)	(5.3)
EPS	(5.4)	(5.8)

Previous Reports

01-05-2025: Q1CY25 results review 11-02-2025: Q4CY24 results review



Margin expansion despite weak India performance

EBITDA stood at INR 20bn, flat YoY, with margins expanding 82bps YoY to 28.5%, supported by strong operating leverage in international markets, favourable currency movement in Africa and better control on overheads. This came despite higher fixed overheads from four new greenfield plants in India, which are yet to contribute meaningfully to volumes. Gross margin remained steady at 54.5%, reflecting stable input costs and efficient procurement across geographies.

Finance costs declined 72% YoY post QIP-led debt reduction, further aiding profitability. PAT grew 5.1% YoY to INR 13.2bn in Q2, while H1 PAT grew 14.2% YoY to INR 20.4bn. Depreciation increased 26% YoY due to capacity additions in India and DRC. Margin performance is notable given the ongoing commissioning phase for new capacities, which are yet to fully ramp up, indicating headroom for operating leverage in coming quarters.

Focus on execution; capacity in place for recovery

Despite temporary weather-led disruption in India, management remains confident of a demand recovery in H2, backed by capacity rollout, wider product availability, and increasing penetration across retail. The company has added four new production facilities in Prayagraj, Buxar, Damtal, and Mendipathar, along with a new snacks plant in Morocco and a can line in South Africa. Capex for H1 stood at ~INR 25bn. Going ahead, the capex intensity is expected to reduce in India.

Valuation

We cut our estimates by 5-6% for CY25-26 and introduce CY27 estimates. We model revenue/ EBITDA/ PAT CAGR of 15%/ 14%/ 21% over CY24-27E. We maintain **HOLD** with a revised DCF-based TP of INR 500 (previously INR 470) as we roll forward to Jun'27. At our target price, VBL's implied P/E would be 48x/40x CY26/CY27E. Key risks: Steep rise in competitive pressures and faster-than-expected recovery in urban and rural economies.

Exhibit 1: Consolidated financials

Y/e Dec (INR mn)	Q2CY25	Q2CY24	YoY gr.	Q1CY25	QoQ gr.	H2CY25	H2CY24	Chg (%)
Revenue	70,174	71,969	(2.5)	55,669	26.1	125,843	115,142	9.3
Expenditure								
Raw materials	31,911	32,606	(2.1)	25,291	26.2	57,202	51,481	11.1
% of revenue	45.5	45.3	17 bps	45.4		45.5	44.7	74 bps
Employee cost	5,497	4,993	10.1	5,115	<i>7.</i> 5	10,612	8,930	18.8
% of revenue	7.8	6.9	90 bps	9.2		8.4	7.8	68 bps
Other expenditure	12,778	14,458	(11.6)	12,624	1.2	25,402	24,931	1.9
% of revenue	18.2	20.1	-188 bps	22.7		20.2	21.7	-147 bps
Total expenditure	50,186	52,056	(3.6)	43,030	16.6	93,216	85,342	9.2
EBITDA	19,988	19,912	0.4	12,640	58.1	32,627	29,800	9.5
EBITDA margin (%)	28.5	27.7	82 bps	22.7		25.9	25.9	5 bps
Other income	772	440	<i>7</i> 5.3	281	175.0	1,052	524	100.9
PBDIT	20,759	20,352	2.0	12,920	60. <i>7</i>	33,680	30,324	11.1
Depreciation	3,062	2,425	26.3	2,725	12.3	5,787	4,300	34.6
PBIT	17,698	17,928	(1.3)	10,195	<i>7</i> 3.6	27,893	26,024	<i>7.</i> 2
Interest	365	1,292	(71.7)	411	(11.1)	777	2,228	(65.1)
Income from Associates	(12)	(5)	121.8	(6)	106.1	(18)	(7)	153.4
PBT	17,320	16,631	4.1	9,778	<i>77.</i> 1	27,099	23,788	13.9
Prov for tax	4,066	4,012	1.3	2,465	65.0	6,530	5,690	14.8
% of PBT	23.5	24.1	-65 bps	25.2		24.1	23.9	18 bps
PAT	13,255	12,618	5.0	7,314	81.2	20,568	18,098	13.6
Minority interest	85	92	(8.3)	49	73.8	133	203	(34.4)
Adjusted PAT	13,170	12,526	5.1	7,265	81.3	20,435	17,895	14.2
Extra ordinary items	-	-		-		-	201	(100.0)
Reported PAT	13,170	12,526	5.1	7,265	81.3	20,435	18,096	12.9

Source: I-Sec research, Company data



Exhibit 2: Standalone financials

Y/e Dec (INR mn)	Q2CY25	Q2CY24	YoY gr.	Q1CY25	QoQ gr.	H2CY25	H2CY24	YoY gr.
Revenue	53,050	58,016	(8.6)	40,525	30.9	93,575	92,477	1.2
Expenditure								
Raw materials	24,946	27,153	(8.1)	19,100	30.6	44,046	43,002	2.4
% of revenue	47.0	46.8	22 bps	47.1		47.1	46.5	57 bps
Employee cost	3,304	3,209	3.0	3,074	<i>7.</i> 5	6,379	5,956	7.1
% of revenue	6.2	5.5	70 bps	7.6		6.8	6.4	38 bps
Other expenditure	8,385	10,268	(18.3)	8,248	1.7	16,633	17,924	(7.2)
% of revenue	15.8	17.7	-189 bps	20.4		17.8	19.4	-161 bps
Total expenditure	36,635	40,630	(9.8)	30,422	20.4	67,058	66,883	0.3
EBITDA	16,415	17,386	(5.6)	10,103	62.5	26,518	25,595	3.6
EBITDA margin (%)	30.9	30.0	97 bps	24.9		28.3	27.7	66 bps
Other income	900	672	33.9	598	50.5	1,498	999	50.0
PBDIT	17,315	18,058	(4.1)	10,701	61.8	28,016	26,593	5.3
Depreciation	1,801	1,668	8.0	1,650	9.2	3,451	3,063	12.7
PBIT	15,514	16,390	(5.3)	9,051	71.4	24,565	23,531	4.4
Interest	37	1,032	(96.4)	78	<i>(</i> 52. <i>7</i>)	115	1,871	(93.9)
PBT	15,477	15,359	0.8	8,973	<i>7</i> 2.5	24,450	21,660	12.9
Prov for tax	3,875	3,857	0.5	2,193	76.8	6,068	5,465	11.0
% of PBT	25.0	25.1	-7 bps	24.4		24.8	25.2	-42 bps
PAT	11,602	11,501	0.9	6,781	71.1	18,382	16,194	13.5
Extra ordinary items	-	-		-		-	-	
Reported PAT	11,602	11,501	0.9	6,781	71.1	18,382	16,194	13.5

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

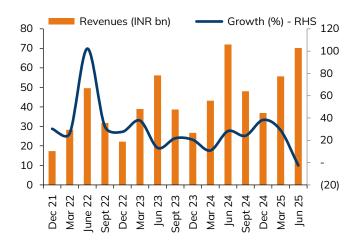
Exhibit 3: Volume details

	Jun 23	Sept 23	Dec 23	Mar 24	Jun 24	Sept 24	Dec 24	Mar 25	Jun 25
Sales volume (Mn cases)									
CSD	232	159	106	169	306	200	158	234	291
Juice	23	11	8	18	32	11	8	22	28
Water	59	50	42	53	63	56	49	56	71
Total	314	220	156	240	401	267	215	312	390
As % of Total									
CSD	73.9%	72.3%	67.9%	70.4%	76.3%	74.8%	73.5%	75.0%	74.6%
Juice	7.3%	5.0%	5.1%	7.5%	8.0%	4.2%	3.7%	7.1%	7.2%
Water	18.8%	22.7%	26.9%	22.1%	15.7%	21.0%	22.8%	17.9%	18.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
-									
Growth (%)									
CSD	6.4%	19.5%	24.7%	5.6%	31.9%	25.8%	49.1%	38.5%	-4.9%
Juice	-11.5%	0.0%	14.3%	12.5%	39.1%	2.7%	0.0%	22.2%	-12.5%
Water	7.3%	8.7%	5.0%	10.4%	6.8%	12.0%	16.7%	5.7%	12.7%
Total	5.0%	15.8%	18.2%	7.1%	27.7%	21.5%	37.8%	30.0%	-2.7%
Realization per case (INR)	179	176	171	180	179	180	172	178	180
EBITDA per case (INR)	48	40	27	41	50	43	27	41	51
Realization growth (%)	7.8%	5.2%	1.9%	3.5%	0.4%	2.2%	0.3%	-0.8%	0.3%
EBITDA per case growth (%)	15.1%	9.0%	15.1%	15.6%	3.2%	7.4%	0.6%	-1.7%	3.2%

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

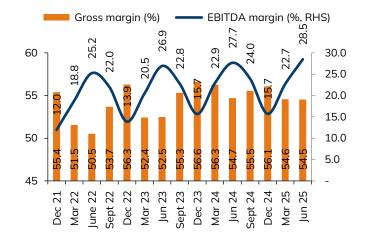


Exhibit 4: Revenue trend



Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research

Exhibit 5: Margin trend



Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research

Exhibit 6: Shareholding pattern

%	Dec'24	Mar'25	Jun'25
Promoters	60.2	60.2	59.8
Institutional investors	32.4	32.2	32.5
MFs and other	4.8	6.7	7.5
Fls/ Banks	0.1	0.0	0.1
Insurance Cos.	1.8	2.1	2.7
FIIs	25.7	23.4	22.2
Others	7.4	7.6	7.7

Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research

Exhibit 7: Price chart



Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research



Financial Summary

Exhibit 8: Profit & Loss

(INR mn, year ending Dec)

	CY24A	CY25E	CY26E	CY27E
Net Sales	2,00,077	2,30,721	2,64,466	3,01,089
Operating Expenses	1,52,966	1,76,880	2,03,222	2,31,526
EBITDA	47,111	53,841	61,244	69,563
EBITDA Margin (%)	23.5	23.3	23.2	23.1
Depreciation & Amortization	9,474	11,661	12,754	13,634
EBIT	37,637	42,181	48,490	55,929
Interest expenditure	4,504	1,932	1,132	332
Other Non-operating Income	1,213	2,199	3,717	5,307
Recurring PBT	34,346	42,448	51,074	60,903
Profit / (Loss) from Associates	15	15	15	15
Less: Taxes	7,988	9,975	12,002	14,312
PAT	26,358	32,472	39,072	46,591
Less: Minority Interest	415	457	503	553
Extraordinaries (Net)	577	-	-	-
Net Income (Reported)	26,534	32,030	38,584	46,053
Net Income (Adjusted)	25,957	32,030	38,584	46,053

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 9: Balance sheet

(INR mn, year ending Dec)

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	CY24A	CY25E	CY26E	CY27E
Total Current Assets	78,640	1,00,058	1,28,350	1,62,878
of which cash & cash eqv.	24,501	46,178	68,889	97,391
Total Current Liabilities &	30,008	31,147	35,703	40,647
Provisions	30,008	31,147	33,703	40,047
Net Current Assets	48,631	68,911	92,647	1,22,231
Investments	6,919	6,919	6,919	6,919
Net Fixed Assets	1,31,008	1,41,014	1,40,760	1,42,126
ROU Assets	-	-	-	-
Capital Work-in-Progress	11,667	-	-	-
Total Intangible Assets	3,009	3,009	3,009	3,009
Long Term Loans &	_	_	_	_
Advances				
Deferred Tax assets	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	2,01,234	2,19,853	2,43,335	2,74,285
Liabilities				
Borrowings	29,155	19,155	9,155	(845)
Deferred Tax Liability	4,683	4,683	4,683	4,683
Provisions	-	-	-	-
Other Liabilities	-	-	-	-
Equity Share Capital	6,763	6,763	6,763	6,763
Reserves & Surplus	1,59,335		2,21,436	2,62,386
Total Net Worth	1,66,098		2,28,199	
Minority Interest	1,298	1,298	1,298	1,298
Total Liabilities	2,01,234	2,19,853	2,43,335	2,74,285

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 10: Quarterly trend

(INR mn, year ending Dec)

	Sept 24	Dec 24	Mar 25	Jun 25
Net Sales	48,047	36,888	55,669	70,174
% growth (YOY)	24.1	38.3	28.9	(2.5)
EBITDA	11,511	5,800	12,640	19,988
Margin %	24.0	15.7	22.7	28.5
Other Income	243	446	281	772
Extraordinaries	(197)	771	-	-
Adjusted Net Profit	6,216	1,813	7,265	13,170

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 11: Cashflow statement

(INR mn, year ending Dec)

	CY24A	CY25E	CY26E	CY27E
Operating Cashflow	29,443	45,059	50,283	58,574
Working Capital Changes	(6,694)	1,398	(1,025)	(1,082)
Capital Commitments	(37,790)	(10,000)	(12,500)	(15,000)
Free Cashflow	(8,348)	35,059	37,783	43,574
Other investing cashflow	(5,659)	-	-	-
Cashflow from Investing Activities	(43,449)	(10,000)	(12,500)	(15,000)
Issue of Share Capital	74,508	-	-	-
Interest Cost	-	-	-	-
Inc (Dec) in Borrowings	(37,075)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)
Dividend paid	(3,248)	(3,382)	(5,072)	(5,072)
Others	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from Financing Activities	34,185	(13,382)	(15,072)	(15,072)
Chg. in Cash & Bank balance	20,179	21,678	22,711	28,502
Closing cash & balance	22,663	46,178	68,889	97,391

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 12: Key ratios

(Year ending Dec)

	CY24A	CY25E	CY26E	CY27E
Per Share Data (INR)				
Reported EPS	7.7	9.5	11.4	13.6
Adjusted EPS (Diluted)	7.7	9.5	11.4	13.6
Cash EPS	10.5	12.9	15.2	17.7
Dividend per share (DPS)	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.5
Book Value per share (BV)	49.1	57.6	67.5	79.6
Dividend Payout (%)	12.5	10.6	13.1	11.0
Growth (%)				
Net Sales	24.7	15.3	14.6	13.8
EBITDA	30.5	14.3	13.7	13.6
EPS (INR)	21.1	23.4	20.5	19.4
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	66.7	54.1	44.9	37.6
P/CEPS	48.9	39.6	33.7	29.0
P/BV	10.4	8.9	7.6	6.4
EV / EBITDA	36.7	31.5	27.2	23.4
P / Sales	8.7	7.5	6.5	5.8
Dividend Yield (%)	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Operating Ratios				
Gross Profit Margins (%)	55.5	54.6	54.5	54.4
EBITDA Margins (%)	23.5	23.3	23.2	23.1
Effective Tax Rate (%)	23.3	23.5	23.5	23.5
Net Profit Margins (%)	13.0	13.9	14.6	15.3
Net Debt / Equity (x)	0.0	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.4)
Net Debt / EBITDA (x)	0.0	(0.6)	(1.1)	(1.5)
Fixed Asset Turnover (x)	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4
Working Capital Days	44	36	33	30
Inventory Turnover Days	57	53	53	52
Receivables Days	17	8	8	8
Payables Days	59	51	51	51
Profitability Ratios				
RoCE (%)	17.9	15.7	16.3	16.8
RoE (%)	21.8	17.6	18.1	18.4
RoIC (%)	21.2	20.8	24.6	28.6
Source Company data, I-Sec resea	rch			



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