

03 August 2025

India | Equity Research | Results Update

Blue Dart Express

Logistics

Attractive risk reward; margins may have bottomed out

Blue Dart Express' (BDE) Q1FY26 performance was below consensus estimates. Key points: 1) Number of shipments rose 4.4% YoY while volume (in tonnage) grew 8.6% YoY. 2) EBITDA margin declined to 13.6% and was mainly impacted by change in i) customer mix, ii) product mix and iii) lane mix. 3) New freights are currently running at optimal utilisation levels of \sim 85%. 4) Revenue growth for i) B2C was \sim 20.2% and ii) B2B was \sim 2.4%. 5) Surface cargo growth was \sim 13% while air cargo growth was 2.2%, YoY. Going ahead, we have factored in 11.4% revenue CAGR through FY27E but reduced EPS by 18.4%/1.8% for FY26/27E, respectively, based on Q1 underperformance. Further, given the recent correction in the stock price, we upgrade BDE to **BUY** from *Add* with a revised TP of INR 7,330 (earlier INR 7,470), based on 35x FY27E EPS.

EBITDA missed consensus estimates

BDE's Q1FY26 EBITDA of INR 1.95bn (down 3.2%/8.2% YoY/QoQ) was below consensus estimates. Key points: 1) Number of shipments rose 4.4% YoY to 94.1mn and tonnage volume rose 8.6% YoY (2.7% QoQ) to 340kte. 2) EBITDA/kg and EBITDA/shipment declined to INR 5.8/kg and INR 20.8/shipment. 3) EBITDA margin deteriorated to 13.6%, mainly due to change in i) customer mix, ii) product mix and iii) lane mix. 4) Utilisation of two new freighters has reached optimal utilisation level of ~85%. 5) Surface cargo growth was ~13% while air cargo growth was 2.2%, YoY in Q1. Going ahead, we have factored in 11.4% revenue CAGR through FY27E while maintaining EBITDA margin at 15-16% levels.

Outlook: Attractive risk reward

We believe, after nearly two years of subdued performance, margins may have bottomed out now. BDE's revenue grew at 5.2% CAGR over FY23-25(vs. at 9.7% CAGR over the past 10 years), but its EBITDA margin has declined from 18.1% in FY23 to 15.3% in FY25, and further declined to 13.6% in Q1FY26 (one of the lowest in any quarter in past five years). Going forward, we have estimated revenue CAGR of 11.4% through FY27E while maintaining EBITDA margin at 15-16% over the next two years; however, historically, it has had even higher margins. Given BDE's Q1FY26 performance, we have reduced our EPS by 18.41%/1.8% for FY26/27E, respectively. Further, with the recent correction in the stock price, we upgrade BDE to **BUY** from *Add* with a revised TP of INR 7,330 (earlier INR 7,470), based on 35x FY27E EPS.

Financial Summary

Y/E March (INR mn)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E
Net Revenue	52,678	57,202	63,551	70,926
EBITDA	8,528	8,726	9,801	11,649
EBITDA Margin (%)	16.2	15.3	15.4	16.4
Net Profit	2,972	2,517	3,523	4,977
EPS (INR)	125.1	105.9	148.3	209.5
EPS % Chg YoY	(19.8)	(15.3)	40.0	41.3
P/E (x)	47.1	55.6	39.7	28.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	15.8	15.6	13.6	11.0
RoCE (%)	24.6	18.5	22.9	26.2
RoE (%)	26.1	18.4	22.1	26.2

Mohit Lohia

mohit.lohia@icicisecurities.com +91 22 6807 7510 **Pritish Urumkar**

Pritish.urumkar@icicisecurities.com

Market Data

Market Cap (INR)	140bn
Market Cap (USD)	1,596mn
Bloomberg Code	BDE IN
Reuters Code	BLDT.BO
52-week Range (INR)	9,489 /5,365
Free Float (%)	25.0
ADTV-3M (mn) (USD)	2.2

Price Performance (%)	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(5.1)	(10.4)	(28.4)
Relative to Sensex	(5.5)	(14.4)	(26.8)

ESG Score	2023	2024	Change
ESG score	66.0	67.7	(1.7)
Environment	41.9	49.1	(7.2)
Social	70.5	66.0	4.5
Governance	77.7	83.8	(6.1)

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

Source: SES ESG, I-sec research

Earnings Revisions (%)	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	(2.6)	(2.6)
EBITDA	(3.8)	3.6
EPS	(18.4)	(1.8)
EPS	(18.4)	(1.8)

Previous Reports

01-02-2025: <u>Q3FY25 results review</u> 14-11-2024: <u>Q2FY25 results review</u>



Key risks

- Lower than expected volume growth.
- Higher capacity utilisation of new aircraft, leading to better margins.
- Higher than expected price hike.

Exhibit 1: Earnings revision

		FY26E			FY27E	
(INR mn)	New	Old	% Chg	New	Old	% Chg
Sales	63,551	65,256	(2.6)	70,926	72,829	(2.6)
EBITDA	9,801	10,186	(3.8)	11,649	11,246	3.6
PAT	3,523	4,318	(18.4)	4,977	5,069	(1.8)

Source: I-Sec research

Q1FY26 conference call takeaways

- BDE has launched India's largest integrated operating facility at Bijwasan in New Delhi in Jan'25.
- Volumes in Q1FY26: Number of parcels stood at 94.1mn and the tonnage was 340,068tons.
- Revenue growth: i) B2C growth was ~20.2% and ii) B2B growth was ~2.4% for Q1FY26.
- Surface cargo growth was ~13% while air cargo growth was 2.2%, both YoY.
- EBITDA margin was impacted mainly due to change in i) customer mix, ii) product mix and iii) lane mix.
- Freighters: BDE operates eight freighters (6nos 757 and 2nos 737) of which 1 freighter is on lease and remaining seven are owned by the company. Its current capacity utilisation is ~85%.
- B2B was 71% (40% air and 30% surface) and B2C was 29% (vs. 74% B2B to 26% B2C in Q1FY25).

Exhibit 2: Blue Dart Q1FY26 standalone financial performance review

INR mn	Q1FY26	Q1FY25	Chg YoY (%)	Q4FY25	Chg QoQ (%)
Total income	14,419	13,427	7.4	14,173	1.7
Operating expenses	10,188	9,476	7.5	10,039	1.5
Gross Margin	4,232	3,951	7.1	4,134	2.4
Gross Margin (%)	29.3	29.4		29.2	
Employee wages	2,023	1,859	8.8	1,818	11.3
Other expenses	1,207	998	20.9	1,136	6.3
Total expenses	13,418	12,333	8.8	12,993	3.3
EBITDA	1,002	1,094	(8.5)	1,181	(15.2)
EBITDA Margin (%)	6.9	8.1		8.3	
Depreciation	505	523	(3.5)	529	(4.5)
Other Income	207	191	8.1	206	0.5
Finance Cost	72	70	3.3	75	(4.8)
PBT	632	693	(8.8)	782	(19.2)
Tax	163	178	(8.6)	250	(35.1)
PAT	469	515	(8.9)	532	(11.8)

Source: I-Sec research, Company data



Exhibit 3: Blue Dart Q1FY26 consolidated financial performance review

INR mn	Q1FY26	Q1FY25	Chg YoY (%)	Q4FY25	Chg QoQ (%)
Total income	14,419	13,427	7.4	14,173	1.7
Operating expenses	8,364	7,813	7.1	8,301	0.8
Gross Margin	6,056	5,615	7.9	5,872	3.1
Gross Margin (%)	42.0	41.8		41.4	
Employee wages	2,608	2,400	8.7	2,397	8.8
Other expenses	1,491	1,193	25.0	1,344	11.0
Total expenses	12,463	11,405	9.3	12,042	3.5
EBITDA	1,956	2,022	(3.2)	2,131	(8.2)
EBITDA Margin (%)	13.6	15.1	(149.1)	15.0	(147.2)
Depreciation	1,209	1,183	2.3	1,243	(2.7)
Other Income	99	91	8.6	123	(19.6)
Finance Cost	186	210	(11.2)	200	(7.1)
PBT	659	720	(8.5)	811	(18.7)
Tax	171	186	(8.1)	259	(34.0)
PAT	488	534	(8.6)	552	(11.5)

Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 4: Blue Dart Q1FY26 operational performance review

(INR)	Q1FY26	Q1FY25	Chg YoY (%)	Q4FY25	Chg QoQ (%)
Shipments (mn)	94.1	90.2	4.4	97.2	(3.2)
Weight (te)	3,40,068	3,13,089	8.6	3,31,153	2.7
Realisation/Shipment	153.2	148.9	2.9	145.8	5.1
Realisation/kg	42.4	42.9	(1.1)	43.5	(2.5)
kg/Shipment	3.6	3.5	4.1	3.4	6.1
Gross margin/kg	17.8	17.9	(0.7)	17.7	0.4
Gross Margin/Shipment	64.4	62.3	3.3	60.4	6.5
EBITDA/kg	5.8	6.5	(10.9)	6.4	(10.6)
EBITDA/shipment	20.8	22.4	(7.3)	21.9	(5.2)

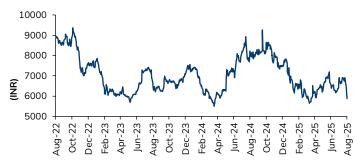
Source: I-Sec research, Company data

Exhibit 5: Shareholding pattern

%	Dec'24	Mar'25	Jun'25
Promoters	75.0	75.0	75.0
Institutional investors	18.4	18.5	18.6
MFs and other	8.9	9.3	9.3
FIs/ Banks	0.0	0.3	0.3
Insurance Cos.	3.4	3.4	3.4
FIIs	6.2	5.5	5.5
Others	6.6	6.5	6.4

Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research

Exhibit 6: Price chart



Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research



Financial Summary

Exhibit 7: Profit & Loss

(INR mn, year ending March)

	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E
	E2 670		60 554	70.000
Net Sales	52,678	57,202	63,551	70,926
Operating Expenses	13,830	14,950	16,129	17,404
EBITDA	8,528	8,726	9,801	11,649
EBITDA Margin (%)	16.2	15.3	15.4	16.4
Depreciation & Amortization	4,329	4,849	4,712	4,760
EBIT	4,199	3,877	5,088	6,890
Interest expenditure	781	824	868	773
Other Non-operating Income	508	420	490	538
Recurring PBT	3,927	3,472	4,710	6,654
Profit / (Loss) from				
Associates	-	-	-	-
Less: Taxes	955	956	1,187	1,677
PAT	2,972	2,517	3,523	4,977
Less: Minority Interest	-	-	-	-
Extraordinaries (Net)	-	-	-	-
Net Income (Reported)	2,972	2,517	3,523	4,977
Net Income (Adjusted)	2,972	2,517	3,523	4,977

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 8: Balance sheet

(INR mn, year ending March)

	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E
Total Current Assets	13,738	15,944	17,961	24,203
of which cash & cash eqv.	4,735	5,531	6,449	11,476
Total Current Liabilities & Provisions	11,259	9,598	10,615	11,638
Net Current Assets	2,480	6,346	7,346	12,565
Investments	-	-	-	-
Net Fixed Assets	10,469	10,706	9,494	8,234
ROU Assets	-	-	-	-
Capital Work-in-Progress	735	766	766	766
Total Intangible Assets	7,760	7,433	7,433	7,433
Other assets	146	106	106	106
Deferred Tax Assets	716	627	627	627
Total Assets	22,306	25,984	25,772	29,731
Liabilities				
Borrowings	-	2,000	-	-
Deferred Tax Liability	(1,045)	(1,046)	(1,046)	(1,046)
provisions	-	-	-	-
other Liabilities	1,495	1,370	1,370	1,370
Equity Share Capital	238	238	238	238
Reserves & Surplus	13,435	15,353	18,282	22,667
Total Net Worth	13,673	15,590	18,520	22,904
Minority Interest	-	-	-	-
Total Liabilities	22,306	25,984	25,772	29,731

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 9: Quarterly trend

(INR mn, year ending March)

	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25
Net Sales	14,485	15,117	14,173	14,419
% growth (YOY)	9.4	9.3	7.1	7.4
EBITDA	2,181	2,392	2,131	1,956
Margin %	15.1	15.8	15.0	13.6
Other Income	87	120	123	99
Extraordinaries	-	-	-	-
Adjusted Net Profit	628	810	552	488

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 10: Cashflow statement

(INR mn, year ending March)

	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E
Operating Cashflow	11,329	4,974	8,531	9,781
Working Capital Changes	3,148	(3,163)	(83)	(191)
Capital Commitments	(2,675)	(2,539)	(3,500)	(3,500)
Free Cashflow	8,653	2,435	5,031	6,281
Other investing cashflow	(1,071)	(458)	(652)	113
Cashflow from Investing Activities	(3,746)	(2,997)	(4,152)	(3,387)
Issue of Share Capital	-	-	-	-
Interest Cost	(201)	(188)	(868)	(773)
Inc (Dec) in Borrowings	(2,832)	(3,556)	(2,000)	-
Dividend paid	(979)	(593)	(593)	(593)
Others	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from Financing Activities	(4,012)	(4,337)	(3,462)	(1,367)
Chg. in Cash & Bank balance	3,570	(2,360)	918	5,027
Closing cash & balance	4,508	2,375	6,449	11,476

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 11: Key ratios

(Year ending March)

	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E
Per Share Data (INR)				
Reported EPS	125.1	105.9	148.3	209.5
Adjusted EPS (Diluted)	125.1	105.9	148.3	209.5
Cash EPS	307.3	310.0	346.6	409.8
Dividend per share (DPS)	-	-	-	-
Book Value per share (BV)	575.5	656.2	779.5	964.0
Dividend Payout (%)	-	-	-	-
Growth (%)				
Net Sales	1.8	8.6	11.1	11.6
EBITDA	(9.0)	2.3	12.3	18.9
EPS (INR)	(19.8)	(15.3)	40.0	41.3
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	47.1	55.6	39.7	28.1
P/CEPS	19.2	19.0	17.0	14.4
P/BV	10.2	9.0	7.6	6.1
EV / EBITDA	15.8	15.6	13.6	11.0
Dividend Yield (%)	-	-	-	-
Ou anatin a Batin				
Operating Ratios Gross Profit Margins (%)	42.4	41.4	40.5	40.8
EBITDA Margins (%)	42.4 16.2	41.4 15.3	40.5 15.4	40.8 16.4
Effective Tax Rate (%)	24.3	27.5	25.2	25.2
Net Profit Margins (%)	5.6	4.4	5.5	7.0
Net Debt / Equity (x)	(0.3)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.5)
Net Debt / EBITDA (x)	(0.6)	(0.4)	(0.7)	(1.0)
Total Asset Turnover (x)	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6
Inventory Turnover Days	4	3	4	4
Receivables Days	49	53	56	57
Payables Days	45	46	50	51
Profitability Ratios				
RoE (%)	26.1	18.4	22.1	26.2
RoCE (%)	24.6	18.5	22.9	26.2
RoIC (%)	34.8	25.8	34.5	43.5

Source Company data, I-Sec research



This report may be distributed in Singapore by ICICI Securities, Inc. (Singapore branch). Any recipients of this report in Singapore should contact ICICI Securities, Inc. (Singapore branch) in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, this report. The contact details of ICICI Securities, Inc. (Singapore branch) are as follows: Address: 10 Collyer Quay, #40-92 Ocean Financial Tower, Singapore - 049315, Tel: +65 6232 2451 and email: navneet_babbar@icicisecuritiesinc.com, Rishi_agrawal@icicisecuritiesinc.com and Kadambari_balachandran@icicisecuritiesinc.com.

"In case of eligible investors based in Japan, charges for brokerage services on execution of transactions do not in substance constitute charge for research reports and no charges are levied for providing research reports to such investors."

New I-Sec investment ratings (all ratings based on absolute return; All ratings and target price refers to 12-month performance horizon, unless mentioned otherwise) BUY: >15% return; ADD: 5% to 15% return; HOLD: Negative 5% to Positive 5% return; REDUCE: Negative 5% to Negative 15% return; SELL: < negative 15% return

ANALYST CERTIFICATION

I/We, Mohit Lohia, CA; Pritish Urumkar, MBATech (Finance); authors and the names subscribed to this report, hereby certify that all of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect our views about the subject issuer(s) or securities. We also certify that no part of our compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation(s) or view(s) in this report. Analysts are not registered as research analysts by FINRA and are not associated persons of the ICICI Securities Inc. It is also confirmed that above mentioned Analysts of this report have not received any compensation from the companies mentioned in the report in the preceding twelve months and do not serve as an officer, director or employee of the companies mentioned in the report.

Terms & conditions and other disclosures:

ICICI Securities Limited (ICICI Securities) is a full-service, integrated investment banking and is, inter alia, engaged in the business of stock brokering and distribution of financial products. Registered Office Address: ICICI Venture House, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025. CIN: L67120MH1995PLC086241, Tel: (91 22) 6807 7100. ICICI Securities is Sebi registered stock broker, merchant banker, investment adviser, portfolio manager, Research Analyst and Alternative Investment Fund. ICICI Securities is registered with Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India Limited (IRDAI) as a composite corporate agent and with PFRDA as a Point of Presence. ICICI Securities Limited Research Analyst SEBI Registration Number – INH000000990. ICICI Securities Limited SEBI Registration is INZ000183631 for stock broker. ICICI Securities AIF Trust's SEBI Registration number is IN/AIF3/23-24/1292 ICICI Securities is a subsidiary of ICICI Bank which is India's largest private sector bank and has its various subsidieries engaged in businesses of housing finance, asset management, life insurance, general insurance, venture capital fund management, etc. ("associates"), the details in respect of which are available on www.icicibank.com.

ICICI Securities is one of the leading merchant bankers/ underwriters of securities and participate in virtually all securities trading markets in India. We and our associates might have investment banking and other business relationship with a significant percentage of companies covered by our Investment Research Department. ICICI Securities and its analysts, persons reporting to analysts and their relatives are generally prohibited from maintaining a financial interest in the securities or derivatives of any companies that the analysts cover.

Recommendation in reports based on technical and derivative analysis centre on studying charts of a stock's price movement, outstanding positions, trading volume etc as opposed to focusing on a company's fundamentals and, as such, may not match with the recommendation in fundamental reports. Investors may visit icicidirect.com to view the Fundamental and Technical Research Reports.

Our proprietary trading and investment businesses may make investment decisions that are inconsistent with the recommendations expressed herein.

ICICI Securities Limited has two independent equity research groups: Institutional Research and Retail Research. This report has been prepared by the Institutional Research. The views and opinions expressed in this document may or may not match or may be contrary with the views, estimates, rating, and target price of the Retail Research.

The information and opinions in this report have been prepared by ICICI Securities and are subject to change without any notice. The report and information contained herein is strictly confidential and meant solely for the selected recipient and may not be altered in any way, transmitted to, copied or distributed, in part or in whole, to any other person or to the media or reproduced in any form, without prior written consent of ICICI Securities. While we would endeavour to update the information herein on a reasonable basis, ICICI Securities is under no obligation to update or keep the information current. Also, there may be regulatory, compliance or other reasons that may prevent ICICI Securities from doing so. Non-rated securities indicate that rating on a particular security has been suspended temporarily and such suspension is in compliance with applicable regulations and/or ICICI Securities policies, in circumstances where ICICI Securities might be acting in an advisory capacity to this company, or in certain other circumstances. This report is based on information obtained from public sources and sources believed to be reliable, but no independent verification has been made nor is its accuracy or completeness guaranteed. This report and information herein is solely for informational purpose and shall not be used or considered as an offer document or solicitation of offer to buy or sell or subscribe for securities or other financial instruments. Though disseminated to all the customers simultaneously, not all customers may receive this report at the same time. ICICI Securities will not treat recipients as customers by virtue of their receiving this report. Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting and tax advice or a representation that any investment or strategy is suitable or appropriate to your specific circumstances. The securities discussed and opinions expressed in this report may not be suitable for all investors, who must make their own investment decisions, based on their own investment objectives, financial positions and needs of specific recipient. This may not be taken in substitution for the exercise of independent judgment by any recipient. The recipient should independently evaluate the investment risks. The value and return on investment may vary because of changes in interest rates, foreign exchange rates or any other reason. ICICI Securities accepts no liabilities whatsoever for any loss or damage of any kind arising out of the use of this report. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Investors are advised to see Risk Disclosure Document to understand the risks associated before investing in the securities markets. Actual results may differ materially from those set forth in projections. Forward-looking statements are not predictions and may be subject to change without notice.

ICICI Securities or its associates might have managed or co-managed public offering of securities for the subject company or might have been mandated by the subject company for any other assignment in the past twelve months.

ICICI Securities or its associates might have received any compensation from the companies mentioned in the report during the period preceding twelve months from the date of this report for services in respect of managing or co-managing public offerings, corporate finance, investment banking or merchant banking, brokerage services or other advisory service in a merger or specific transaction.

ICICI Securities or its associates might have received any compensation for products or services other than investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the companies mentioned in the report in the past twelve months.

ICICI Securities encourages independence in research report preparation and strives to minimize conflict in preparation of research report. ICICI Securities or its associates or its analysts did not receive any compensation or other benefits from the companies mentioned in the report or third party in connection with preparation of the research report. Accordingly, neither ICICI Securities nor Research Analysts and their relatives have any material conflict of interest at the time of publication of this report.

Compensation of our Research Analysts is not based on any specific merchant banking, investment banking or brokerage service transactions.

ICICI Securities or its subsidiaries collectively or Research Analysts or their relatives do not own 1% or more of the equity securities of the Company mentioned in the report as of the last day of the month preceding the publication of the research report.

Since associates of ICICI Securities and ICICI Securities as a entity are engaged in various financial service businesses, they might have financial interests or actual/beneficial ownership of one percent or more or other material conflict of interest in various companies including the subject company/companies mentioned in this report.

ICICI Securities may have issued other reports that are inconsistent with and reach different conclusion from the information presented in this report. Neither the Research Analysts nor ICICI Securities have been engaged in market making activity for the companies mentioned in the report.

We submit that no material disciplinary action has been taken on ICICI Securities by any Regulatory Authority impacting Equity Research Analysis activities.

This 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 ICICI Securities 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.

This report has not been prepared by ICICI Securities, Inc. However, ICICI Securities, Inc. has reviewed the report and, in so far as it includes current or historical information, it is believed to be reliable, although its accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed.



Investment in securities market are subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing.

Registration granted by SEBI and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors. None of the research recommendations promise or guarantee any assured, minimum or risk free return to the investors.

ICICI Securities Limited has not used any Artificial Intelligence tools for preparation of this Research Report.

SEBI Guidelines for Research Analyst (RA) requires all RAs to disclose terms and conditions pertaining to Research Services to all clients. Please go through the "Mandatory terms and conditions" and "Most Important Terms and Conditions. (Link)

Name of the Compliance officer (Research Analyst): Mr. Atul Agrawal, Contact number: 022-40701000, E-mail Address: complianceofficer@icicisecurities.com

 $For any queries or grievances: \underline{Mr.\ Bhavesh\ Soni} \quad Email\ address: \underline{headservicequality@icicidirect.com} \quad Contact\ Number: 18601231122$