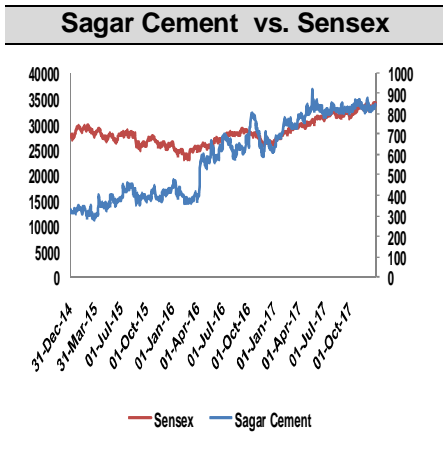


Target Price ₹ 1,715
CMP ₹ 908
11x FY20 EV/EBITDA

Index Details	
Sensex	33,812
Nifty	10,442
Industry	Cement

Scrip Details	
MktCap (Rs cr)	1853.3
O/s Shares (Cr)	2.0
52 Week H/L	585.5/942.1
Div Yield (%)	Nil
FVPS ('Rs)	10.0

Shareholding Pattern	
Shareholders	%
Promoters	50.0
Public	50.0
Total	100.0



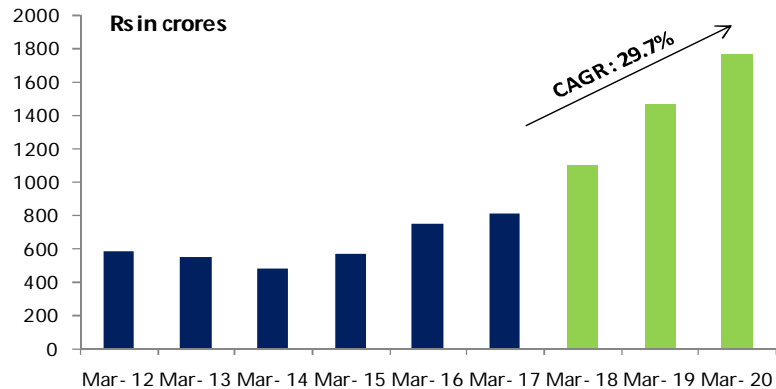
We are pretty enthused by Sagar Cement Ltd's (SCL) astute understanding of the cement cycle, meticulous and careful selection of acquisition targets and its relentless focus on cost efficiencies. SCL is our favorite way to play the cement growth story in south India. We upgrade our price target on the stock to Rs 1,715 (11x FY20 EV/EBITDA) as we introduce estimates for FY20. Our revised price target implies a potential upside of 88.9% from the CMP of Rs 908 over the next 24 months.

Our optimism is bolstered by the following:

❖ **Strong revenue growth on the cards**

Sales volumes to grow at a healthy CAGR of 18.7% to 3.68 MT by FY20. Pricing trends have remained resilient despite capacity overhang. We build in 8.9% CAGR growth in average realizations. On the back drop of the above net revenues are expected to grow to Rs 1,775 crores.

Revenue - Sagar Cement

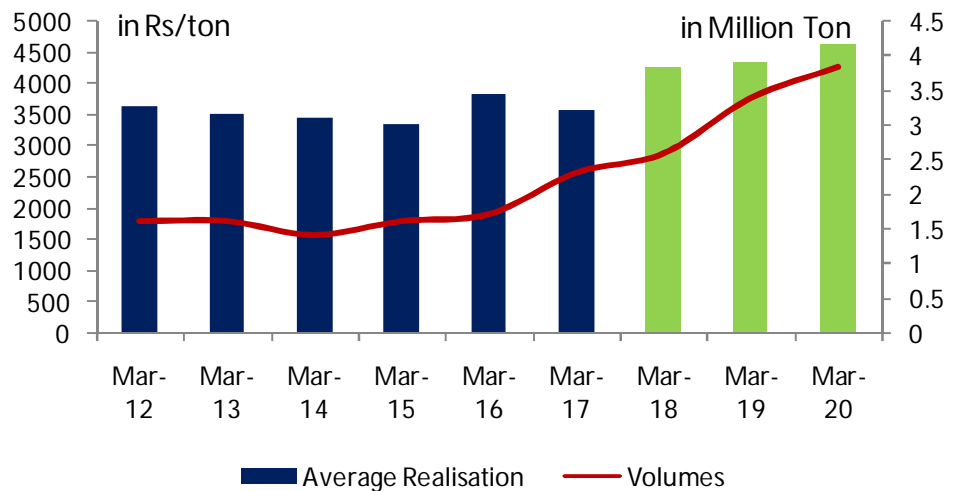


Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Key Financials (Rs in cr)

Y/E Mar	Net Sales	EBITDA	Adj PAT	EPS (Rs)	EPS Growth (%)	RONW (%)	ROCE (%)	P/E (x)	EV/EBITDA (x)
2017	813.8	109.0	-4.0	NA	NA	NA	6.2	NA	19.5
2018E	1101.6	178.4	61.4	30.1	NA	8.0	10.1	30.2	12.0
2019E	1463.6	227.4	100.2	49.1	63.3	12.4	12.8	18.5	9.4
2020E	1775.4	318.8	157.6	77.3	57.2	18.0	16.3	11.8	5.8

Sales Volume & Average Realisation – Sagar Cement

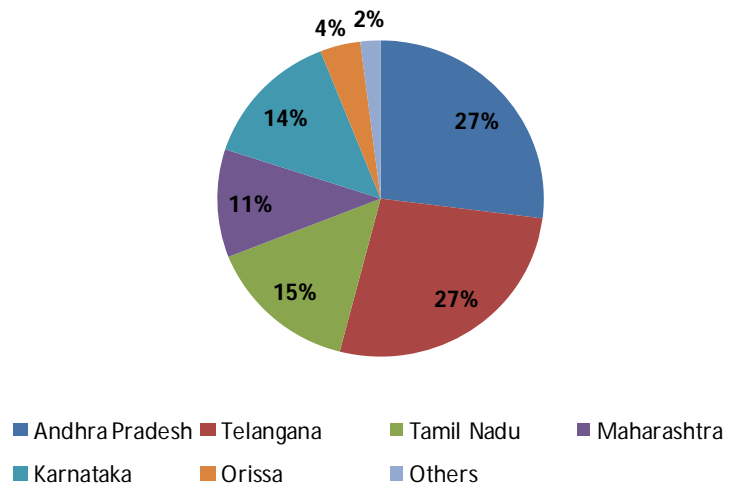


Source: SCL, Ventura Research

❖ SCL, has a diversified geographical sales mix.

In Q2 FY18, the company sold 54% of its volumes in AP and Telangana, TN (15%), Maharashtra (11%), Karnataka (14%), Orissa (4%) and other states (1%). Going forward it plans to increase its sales in the markets of Orissa due to additional capacity of SCL coming up in Vizag.

Geographical Sales Mix – Sagar Cement

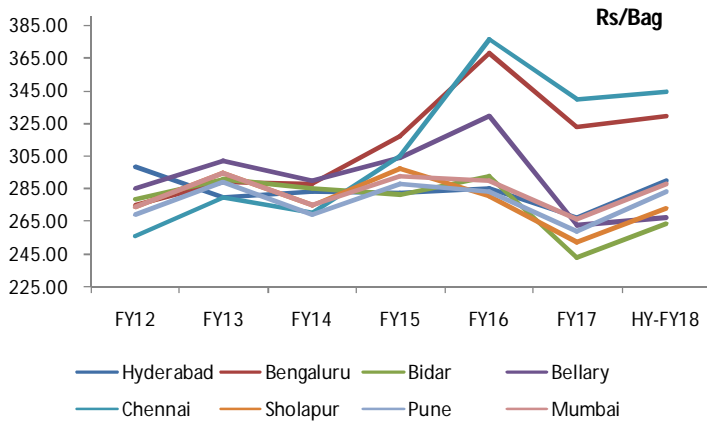


Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is responsible for over 54% of SCL's overall sales. Strong demand trends in AP and Telangana to witness 12-15% and 10% demand growth in FY18E and FY19E, respectively.

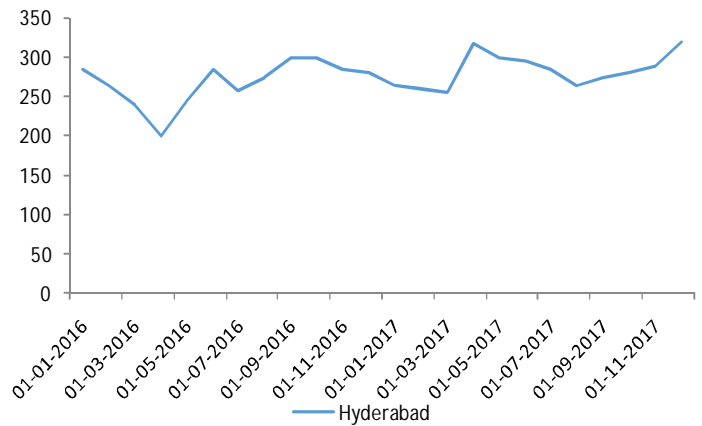
Development of commercial and government infrastructure in the capital Amarawati is expected to fuel this demand. States with muted growth in past such as Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are expected to witness revival in demand given there has been good rainfall recently. The management anticipates 5% demand de-growth in Tamil Nadu in FY18E and a marginal increase in FY19E. However, the demand in Karnataka is expected to grow by 5% and 10% in FY18E and FY19E, respectively.

City wise cement price trend



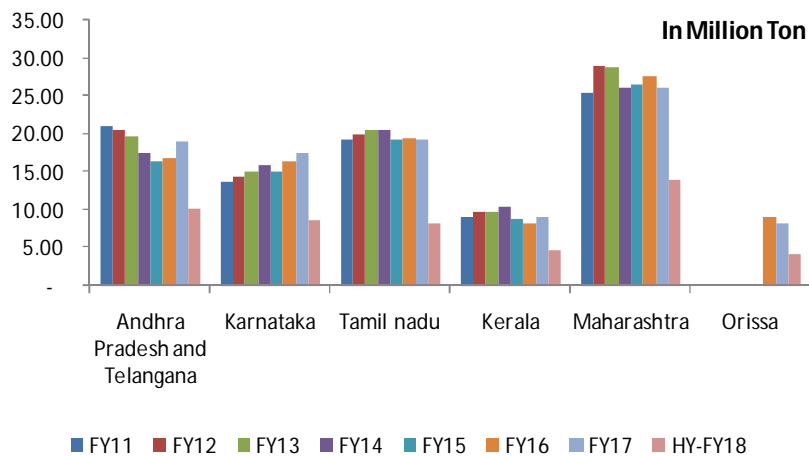
Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Monthly cement price trend- Hyderabad



Source: SCL, Ventura Research

State wise cement demand trend



Source: SCL, Ventura Research

SCL believes, the low cost housing and big ticket irrigation projects may contribute in 2nd half of FY18 in a small fashion. However, they are expected to contribute meaningfully from the next year onwards.

- ❖ **Strategic capacity expansions and cost savings to help lower freight costs and boost EBITDA/tonne**

SCL has got three manufacturing facilities, one each at Vizag, Mattampally and Ananthapur and its capacity is set to scale to 6 MT p.a by FY20

Plantwise capacity and production - Sagar Cement

Unit	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	FY20E
Bayavvaram, Vizag				
Capacity	0.3	0.3	1.5	1.5
Production	0.1	0.3	0.9	0.9
Utilisation (in %)	33.0	87.6	58.0	60.0
Naigonda, Mattampally				
Capacity	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Production	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.9
Utilisation (in %)	50.0	55.0	60.0	65.0
Gudipadu, Ananthapur				
Capacity	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.5
Production	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.0
Utilisation (in %)	67.0	67.0	70.0	65.0

Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Plant Location and Capacity- Sagar Cement



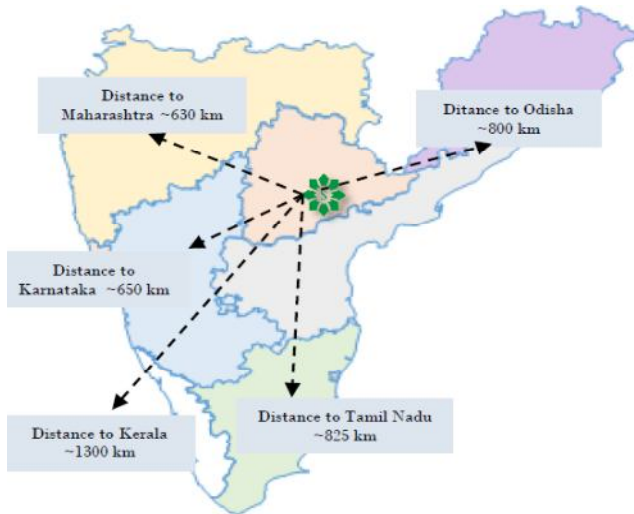
Source: SCL, Ventura Research



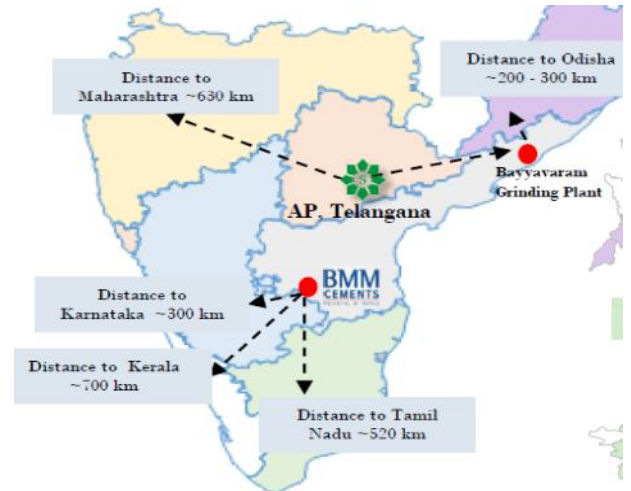
Well thought out capacity expansions both brownfield and greenfield and a strategic partnership to enable maximum return on capital employed.

- a) SCL had acquired a grinding unit of 1,81,500 MT capacity at Bayyavaram in Visakhapatnam District of A.P. for Rs 60 crores and had expanded its capacity to 0.3 million tonnes by shifting idle equipment to the Sagar, Mattampally unit. The Bayyavaram expansion is expected to cater to the high growth markets of Kakinada and Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and Bhubaneswar in Orissa. The expansion from 0.3 mtpa to 1.5 mtpa is likely to be completed by June 2018 at a cost of Rs 168 crores.**
- b) De-bottlenecking at the BMM plant at Ananthapur should help enhance capacity to 1.5 mtpa by FY20 from the present 1 mtpa. Here, SCL has adequate limestone reserves and hence will not be a constraint to service expanded capacity.**
- c) SCL, has also entered into a MOU with Heidelberg Cement (Zuari Cement), whereby SCL shall purchase cement from Heidelberg cement's plant near Solapur and shall be selling the same under Sagar Cement brand name in the Solapur market which is closer to Heidelberg's plant compared to Mattampally plant of SCL. SCL shall procure this cement at Rs 2850/ton plus taxes (with an escalation clause of significant changes in the price of coal and pet coke). Freight shall be born by SCL over and above the purchase price. By the above arrangement SCL shall save Rs 300-400/ton while catering to the Solapur Market which was a significant market to SCL.**

All the above measures will help to significantly cut down on the average lead distance from its manufacturing capacity to its markets. Now the BMM acquisition will service Tamil Nadu, Karnataka & Kerala markets. The Bayyavaram unit will enable deeper reach in North Eastern coastal AP Districts & Southern districts of Odisha markets

Lead Distance- Pre acquisition


Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Lead Distance – Post new units


Source: SCL, Ventura Research

❖ Significant cost savings initiatives to boost profitability

SCL has taken several initiatives to lower cost

a) Waste Heat Recovery system

During the quarter, SCL has commissioned a 6MW Waste Heat Recovery system, which helps save cost to the tune of Rs 1.5 cr per month.

b) 1 MW solar plant

It has also commissioned a 1 MW solar plant during the quarter. Further, it has surplus power capacity at its BMM plant. The excess capacity at the BMM power generating plant (25MW) will be supplied to Matampally plant and over and above that will be sold.

c) 18MW power plant

Once the 18MW power plant is commissioned in FY19, further savings of 50 paise/unit is expected.

d) Introduction of Slag Cement

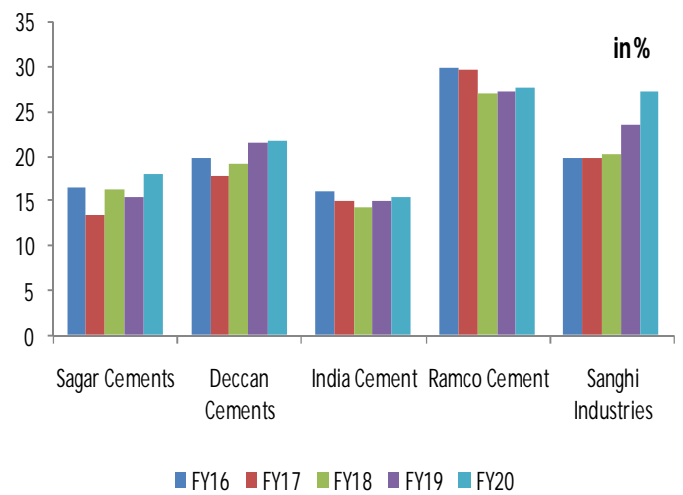
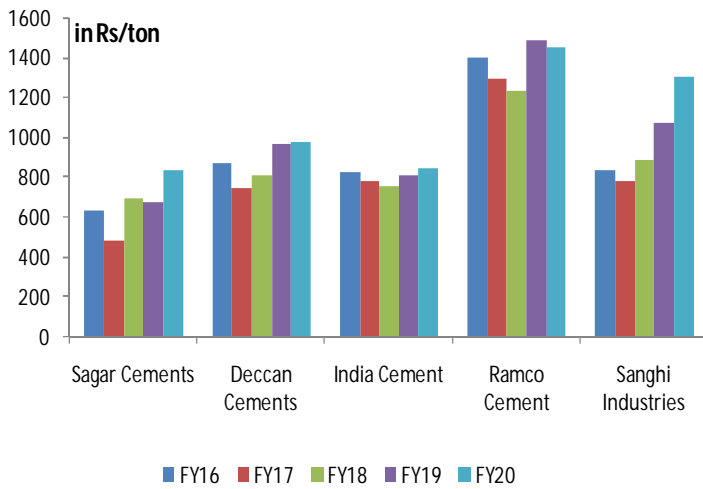
SCL plans to introduce Slag Cement for the coastal markets from its Bayavaram unit. While slag is available in ample quantity, clinker will be supplied by the mother plant at Mattampally, Nalgonda Dist. This shall reduce pressure on the

Matampally plant as slag cement requires only 45% clinker as compared to 95% in OPC.

As a result of the above initiatives we expect EBITDA/ton to grow at a CAGR of 20.1% to Rs 834/ton by FY20 from the current Rs 481/ton.

Further improving operating cash flows should help lower debt despite significant capex.

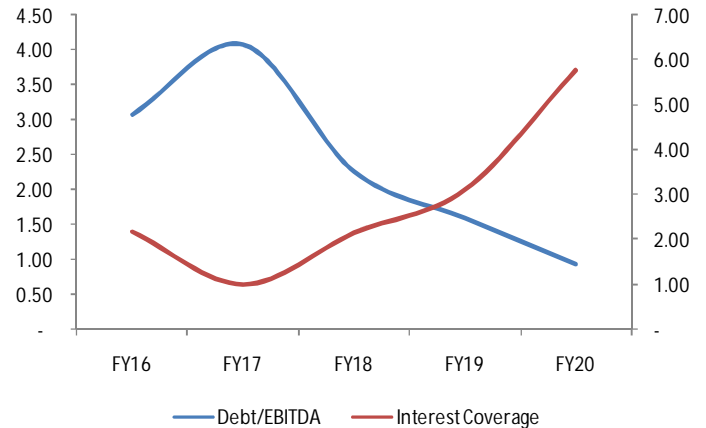
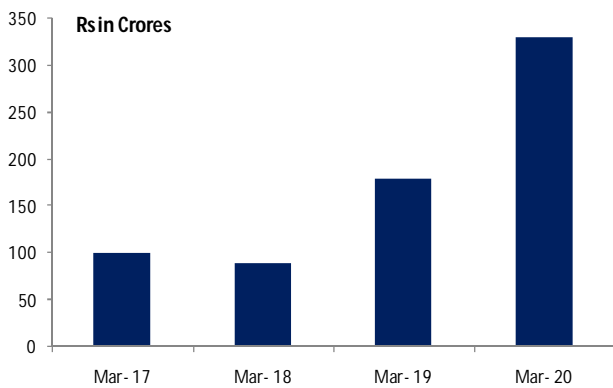
EBITDA and EBITDA Margins will rapidly catch up with peers



Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Source: SCL, Ventura Research

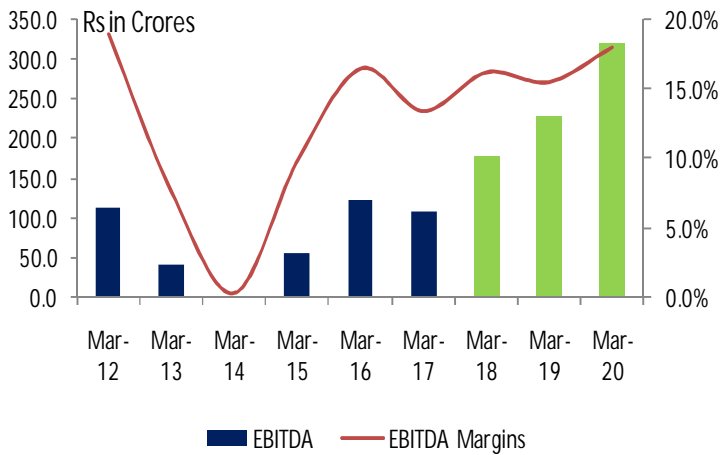
Sharply improving cash flows to lower gearing



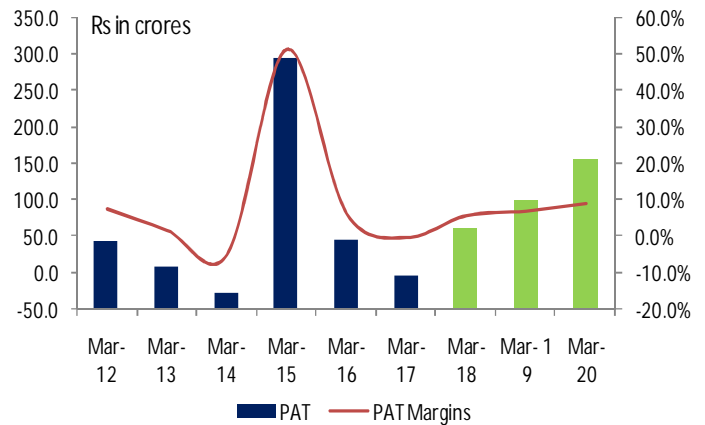
Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Source: SCL, Ventura Research

With its strong revenue growth and continuing strong performance in costs, we expect EBITDA to grow at a CAGR of 43.0% from Rs 109 crores in FY17 to Rs 318.8 crores in FY20. Further, we anticipate PAT to grow from a loss of Rs 4.1 crores in FY17 to Rs 157.6 crores in FY20

EBITDA and EBITDA Margins


Source: SCL, Ventura Research

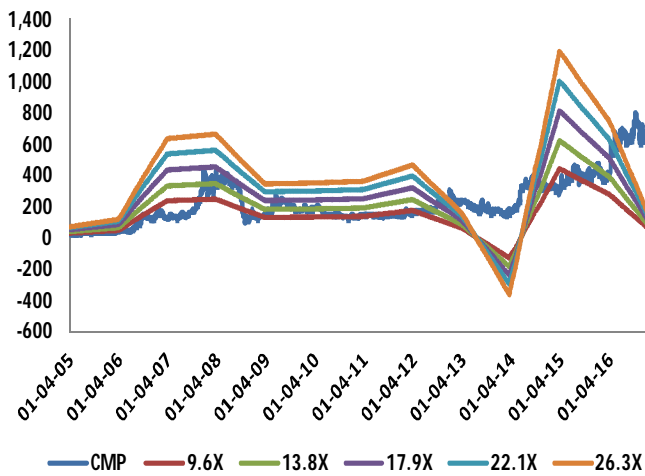
PAT and PAT Margins


Source: SCL, Ventura Research

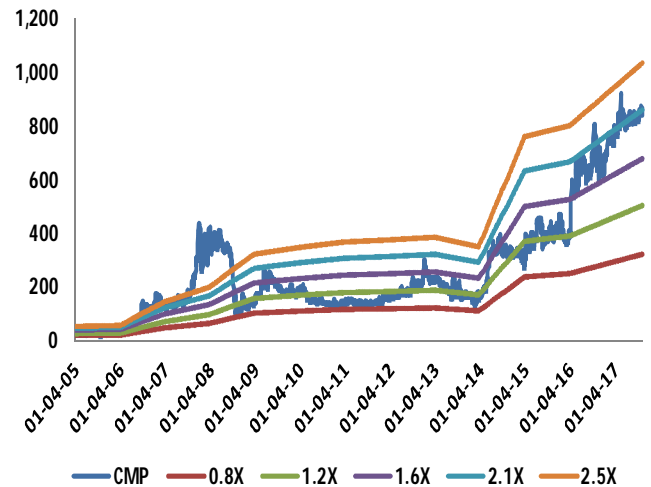
➤ Valuations

Given the improved visibility on revenue growth, profitability and future expansion plans, we believe the stock is due for a re-rating. We have revised our target estimates to Rs 1,715 (11x FY20 EV/EBITDA) representing a potential upside of 88.9% from the CMP of Rs 908 over the next 24 months.

Sagar Cement P/E trend



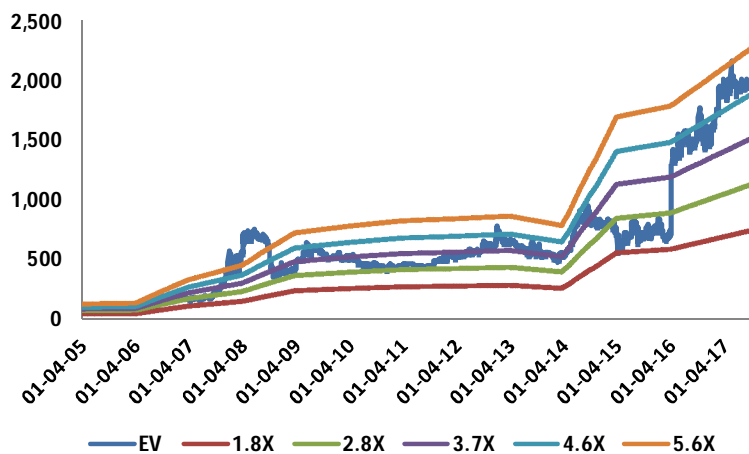
Sagar Cement P/B trend



Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Sagar EV/EBITDA Trend



Source: SCL, Ventura Research

Peer Comparison

Y/E March	CMP	Current Market Cap.	Sales	EBITDA	PAT	EBITDA (%)	PAT (%)	ROE (%)	ROCE (%)	P/E	EV/ EBITDA
Sagar Cements	908	1,853.4									
2017			813.8	109.0	-4.0	13.4	-0.5	NA	6.2	NA	19.5
2018E			1101.6	178.0	61.4	16.2	5.6	8.0	10.1	30.2	12.0
2019E			1463.6	227.0	100.3	15.5	6.9	12.7	12.9	18.5	9.4
Sanghi Industries	140	3,074.0									
2017			997.5	198.0	63.2	19.8	6.3	0.1	5.2	25.1	10.9
2018E			1262.3	256.0	94.1	20.3	7.5	5.8	4.1	22.0	10.5
2019E			1448.8	342.0	160.1	23.6	11.1	7.9	8.9	12.9	9.2
Ramco Cements	785	18,852.0									
2017			3856.8	1176.4	649.3	31.0	17.0	19.0	16.0	25.0	15.0
2018E			4417.7	1272.4	710.7	29.0	16.0	18.0	17.0	23.0	13.5
2019E			5004.8	1474.0	892.3	29.0	18.0	19.0	20.0	18.0	11.1
Heidelberg	153	3,469.0									
2017			1687.6	249.0	76.2	14.8	4.5	7.9	8.2	38.4	15.1
2018E			1899.4	321.5	131.6	16.9	6.9	12.6	12.4	22.2	11.3
2019E			2114.0	362.0	162.1	17.1	7.7	14.6	14.5	18.0	9.8

Financial Projections

Y/E March, Fig in ` CrY/E March,	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	FY20E	Y/E March, Fig in ` CrY/E March,	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	FY20E
Profit & Loss Statement					Per Share Data (Rs)				
Net Sales	813.8	1101.6	1463.6	1775.5	Adj. EPS	NA	30.1	49.1	77.3
% Chg.		35.4	32.9	21.3	Cash EPS	25.1	54.1	77.9	106.2
Total Expenditure	704.8	923.2	1236.2	1456.6	DPS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
% Chg.		31.0	33.9	17.8	Book Value	374.0	395.2	429.9	507.2
EBITDA	109.0	178.5	227.4	318.8	Capital, Liquidity, Returns Ratio				
<i>EBDITA Margin %</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>16.2</i>	<i>15.5</i>	<i>18.0</i>	Debt / Equity (x)	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3
Other Income	4.8	6.5	8.6	10.5	Current Ratio (x)	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.8
PBDIT	113.8	185.0	236.1	329.3	ROE (%)	NA	8.0	12.4	18.0
Depreciation	47.6	49.0	58.6	59.1	ROCE (%)	6.2	10.1	12.8	16.3
Interest	62.1	60.6	54.5	45.0	Dividend Yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Exceptional items	0.0				Valuation Ratio (x)				
PBT	4.2	75.4	123.0	225.2	P/E	NA	30.2	18.5	11.8
Tax Provisions	8.1	13.9	22.8	67.6	P/BV	2.4	2.3	2.1	1.8
Reported PAT	-4.0	61.4	100.3	157.6	EV/Sales	2.6	1.9	1.5	1.0
Minority Interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	EV/EBIDTA	19.5	12.0	9.4	5.8
Share of Associate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Efficiency Ratio (x)				
PAT	-4.0	61.4	100.3	157.6	Inventory (days)	43.9	49.5	40.0	40.0
<i>PAT Margin (%)</i>	<i>-0.5</i>	<i>5.6</i>	<i>6.8</i>	<i>8.9</i>	Debtors (days)	39.3	36.3	35.0	35.0
<i>Power / Sales (%)</i>	<i>29.3</i>	<i>33.4</i>	<i>25.4</i>	<i>22.4</i>	Creditors (days)	64.1	58.0	55.0	55.0
Balance Sheet					Cash Flow Statement				
Share Capital	20.4	20.4	20.4	20.4	Profit Before Tax	4.2	75.4	123.0	225.2
Reserves & Surplus	742.6	785.9	856.6	1014.2	Depreciation	47.6	49.0	58.6	59.1
Minority Interest					Working Capital Changes	-8.3	19.7	11.5	10.1
Long Term Borrowings	349.7	308.7	267.7	204.7	Others	57.5	-54.6	-13.4	36.4
Deferred Tax Liability	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	Operating Cash Flow	100.9	89.5	179.7	330.7
Other Non Current Liabilities	50.5	70.0	192.8	282.9	Capital Expenditure	-152.1	-34.7	-273.6	-15.0
Total Liabilities	1194.2	1216.0	1367.5	1554.2	Other Investment Activities	1.5	0.0	150.0	0.0
Gross Block	1314.5	1399.5	1673.1	1688.1	Cash Flow from Investing	-150.6	-34.7	-123.6	-15.0
Less: Acc. Depreciation	314.6	363.6	422.2	481.3	Changes in Share Capital	216.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Block	999.8	1035.8	1250.9	1206.8	Changes in Borrowings	49.7	-41.0	-41.0	-63.0
Capital Work in Progress	55.3	5.0	5.0	5.0	Dividend and Interest	-57.1	-60.6	-54.5	-45.0
Other Non Current Assets	29.6	76.8	29.1	30.1	Cash Flow from Financing	208.7	-101.6	-95.5	-108.0
Net Current Assets	67.8	-12.9	-63.8	133.8	Net Change in Cash	159.0	-46.9	-39.4	207.7
Long term Loans & Advances	41.6	110.2	146.4	177.5	Opening Cash Balance	11.5	170.5	123.6	84.2
Total Assets	1194.2	1215.9	1367.5	1554.2	Closing Cash Balance	170.5	123.6	84.2	291.9

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