India I Equities

Retail

Company Update

Change in Estimates ☑ Target ☑ Reco □

27 July 2025

V-Mart Retail

Margin betterment, continued network expansion; maintaining a Buy

Lower Limeroad losses, greater operational efficiencies and better offline margins drove a 166bp y/y higher EBITDA margin to 14.3% (~200bps above ARe and consensus). SSSG was 1%, hurt by advance Eid sales, an early monsoon and market sluggishness. Vmart's apparel ASP grew 2%. However, Unlimited's fell 3% led by focus on more value offerings. 13 net stores were added, with plans to add 65 net in FY26. Inventory days improved 5\% v/v to 93 days; per store inventory rose slightly but was healthy. Management expects mid to high single-digit SSSG in FY26 and better absolute EBITDA, though margins are likely to be range-bound. Better products, sharper pricing, enhanced product display, supply-chain efficiencies and tech integration/adoption would drive margins. Our FY26e/27e revenue remains unchanged while our EBITDA is 4.8% higher on avg. on consecutively better offline margins in the last few quarters. We expect ~17%/22% revenue/EBITDA CAGRs over FY25-28 while our PAT CAGR is higher at ~77% on a lower base. We retain our Buy rating, with a 12-month TP of Rs1,208, 16x Sep'27e EV/EBITDA (19x FY27e EV/EBITDA).

Greater efficiency driving EBITDA margins. Q1 revenue grew 12.6% y/y to Rs8.9bn. SSSG was 1% (8% the quarter prior; 11% a year ago). Adjusting for advance Eid sales in the previous quarter, SSSG was 5%. The gross margin was flat y/y at 35.3%, hurt by the lower contribution from Limeroad (~47% y/y decline in revenue). Excl. Limeroad, the gross margin expanded 60bps y/y led by better full-price sales and liquidation of old inventory. EBITDA grew 27.5% y/y to Rs1.3bn and the margin expanded 166bps y/y to 14.3% led by ~55% y/y fall in Limeroad EBITDA losses, tighter cost control and operating leverage. PAT rose ~2.8x y/y to Rs336m led by lower interest expense. VMart (core) grew 14% y/y to Rs7.4bn; the EBITDA margin rose 98bps y/y to 14.4%. Unlimited grew ~11% y/y to Rs1.4bn; its EBITDA margin fell 28bps y/y to 17.7%.

Network expansion, working capital. Footfalls grew ~11% y/y, while the conversion rate was 48% and memo growth 18% y/y. 15 stores added, two closed, taking the total to 510. Sales per sq.ft./month grew 1% y/y to Rs716. Working capital utilisation fell to Rs350m (vs a temporary spike in Q4 FY25), expected, though, to rise in Q2 due to seasonal stocks but will hold at the Rs900m-1,000m avg. for FY26. OCF/FCF at Rs2.1bn/1.8bn (vs. Rs1.3bn/ 1bn in Q1 FY25).

Valuation. We retain our Buy with a 12-month TP of Rs1,208, 16x Sep'27e EV/EBITDA. **Risks:** Mounting competition, stores in newer clusters taking longer to ramp up, more digital investments.

FY24	FY25	FY26e	FY27e	FY28e
27,856	32,539	37,893	44,843	52,734
(968)	458	928	1,587	2,531
(12.3)	2.7	11.8	20.1	32.1
NA	NA	68.2	39.9	25.0
26.3	17.2	15.1	12.4	9.7
5.7	7.1	7.0	6.0	4.8
(12.1)	5.9	10.8	16.2	21.3
(0.7)	17.3	14.6	19.0	23.9
-	-	-	-	-
0.1	0.1	0.0	(0.1)	(0.2)
	27,856 (968) (12.3) NA 26.3 5.7 (12.1) (0.7)	27,856 32,539 (968) 458 (12.3) 2.7 NA NA 26.3 17.2 5.7 7.1 (12.1) 5.9 (0.7) 17.3	27,856 32,539 37,893 (968) 458 928 (12.3) 2.7 11.8 NA NA 68.2 26.3 17.2 15.1 5.7 7.1 7.0 (12.1) 5.9 10.8 (0.7) 17.3 14.6	27,856 32,539 37,893 44,843 (968) 458 928 1,587 (12.3) 2.7 11.8 20.1 NA NA 68.2 39.9 26.3 17.2 15.1 12.4 5.7 7.1 7.0 6.0 (12.1) 5.9 10.8 16.2 (0.7) 17.3 14.6 19.0

Rating: **Buy** Target price (12-mth): Rs.1,208 Share price: Rs.803

Key data	VMART IN / VMAR.BO
52-week high / low	Rs.1,130 / 676
Sensex / Nifty	81,463 / 24,837
Market cap	Rs.64bn
Shares outstanding	79m

Shareholding pattern (%)	Jun'25	Mar'25	Dec'24
Promoters	44.2	44.3	44.3
- of which, Pledged	-	-	-
Free float	55.8	55.7	55.7
- Foreign institutions	18.3	17.5	17.3
- Domestic institutions	31.5	32.9	32.5
- Public	6.0	5.3	5.9

Estimates revision (%)	FY26e	FY27e
Sales	0.0	(0.0)
EBITDA	5.2	4.5
EPS	22.0	10.3



Source: Bloomberg

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Anand Rathi Research India Equities

Quick Glance – Financials and Valuations

Fig 1 – Income statement (Rs m)										
Year-end: Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26e	FY27e	FY28e					
Net revenues	27,856	32,539	37,893	44,843	52,734					
Growth (%)	13.0	16.8	16.5	18.3	17.6					
Direct costs	18,251	21,297	24,820	29,148	34,277					
SG&A	7,475	7,470	8,447	10,125	11,552					
EBITDA	2,131	3,771	4,626	5,570	6,905					
EBITDA margins (%)	7.6	11.6	12.2	12.4	13.1					
Depreciation	2,221	2,330	2,723	2,868	3,023					
Other income	210	121	114	135	158					
Interest expenses	1,424	1,365	798	721	666					
PBT	(1,305)	198	1,219	2,116	3,374					
Effective tax rates (%)	25.9	(9.2)	23.9	25.0	25.0					
+ Associates / (Minorities)	-	-	-	-	-					
Net income	(968)	458	928	1,587	2,531					
Adjusted income	(968)	216	928	1,587	2,531					
WANS	79	79	79	79	79					
FDEPS (Rs)	(12.3)	2.7	11.8	20.1	32.1					
FDEPS growth (%)	1,132.6	(122.3)	329.9	71.0	59.5					
Gross margins (%)	34.5	34.5	34.5	35.0	35.0					

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Year-end: Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26e	FY27e	FY28e
PBT (adj. for int. exp., other inc.)	(1,305)	440	1,219	2,116	3,374
+ Non-cash items	3,474	3,572	3,521	3,589	3,689
Oper. prof. before WC	2,169	4,012	4,740	5,705	7,063
- Incr. / (decr.) in WC	(1,716)	504	659	1,250	1,065
Others incl. taxes	26	14	291	529	844
Operating cash-flow	3,859	3,494	3,790	3,926	5,155
- Capex (tang. + intang.)	1,206	1,224	510	510	510
Free cash-flow	2,653	2,270	3,280	3,416	4,645
Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	-
- Div. (incl. buyback & taxes)	-	-	-	-	-
+ Equity raised	7	42	-	-	-
+ Debt raised	(378)	390	(300)	(700)	(400)
- Fin investments	(43)	(10)	-	-	-
- Misc. (CFI + CFF)	2,233	2,590	2,533	2,456	2,401
Net cash-flow	92	122	447	260	1,843
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Resea	arch				

Fig 5 - Price movement

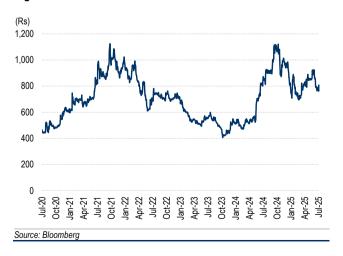


Fig 2 – Balance sheet (Rs m)										
Year-end: Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26e	FY27e	FY28e					
Share capital	198	198	792	792	792					
Net worth	7,470	8,102	9,030	10,617	13,148					
Debt	1,100	1,490	1,190	490	90					
Minority interest	-	-	-	-	-					
DTL / (Assets) *	11,999	5,494	5,494	5,494	5,494					
Capital employed	20,569	15,086	15,714	16,601	18,731					
Net tangible assets **	16,095	9,973	9,586	9,055	8,370					
Net intangible assets	498	397	307	215	122					
Goodwill	15	15	15	15	15					
CWIP (tang. & intang.)	38	43	43	43	43					
Investments (strategic)	-	-	-	-	-					
Investments (financial)	47	51	51	51	51					
Current assets (excl. cash)	10,668	12,641	13,599	16,081	18,898					
Cash	272	394	841	1,101	2,944					
Current liabilities	7,064	8,428	8,727	9,959	11,712					
Working capital	3,604	4,213	4,872	6,121	7,187					
Capital deployed	20.569	15.086	15.714	16.601	18.731					

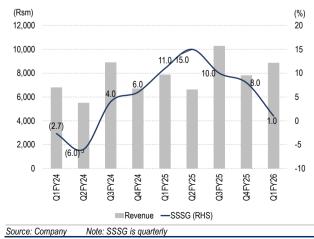
Fig 4 - Ratio analysis

* includes lease liabilities ** includes right-to-use assets

Contingent liabilities

Year-end: Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26e	FY27e	FY28e
P/E (x)	NA	NA	68.2	39.9	25.0
EV / EBITDA (x)	26.3	17.2	15.1	12.4	9.7
EV / Sales (x)	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3
P/B (x)	5.7	7.1	7.0	6.0	4.8
RoE (%)	(12.1)	5.9	10.8	16.2	21.3
RoCE (%) - after tax	(0.7)	17.3	14.6	19.0	23.9
RoIC (%) - after tax	(0.8)	18.1	15.7	21.0	28.8
DPS (Rs)	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend yield (%)	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend payout (%) - incl. DDT	-	-	-	-	-
Net debt / equity (x)	0.1	0.1	0.0	(0.1)	(0.2)
Receivables (days)	-	-	-	-	-
Inventory (days)	107	111	100	100	100
Payables (days)	83	85	75	72	72
CFO: PAT (%)	(398.8)	1,618.3	408.3	247.4	203.7
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Resea	rch				

Fig 6 – Revenue up 12.6% y/y with SSSG at 1% in Q1FY26



Financial highlights

Q1 revenue grew 12.6% y/y to Rs8.9bn. The gross margin was flat y/y at 35.3%. Employee expenses grew 13% y/y while other expenses declined 2.6% y/y. EBITDA grew 27.5% y/y to Rs1.3bn while the margin expanded 166bps y/y to 14.3%. Depreciation climbed 19.6% y/y, while interest expense/other income fell 51.3/36.9% y/y. Profit before tax rose ~4.6x y/y to Rs429m. Rep. PAT grew 2.8x y/y to Rs336m.

Segment-wise, retail trade (V-Mart + Unlimited) revenue grew 13.5% y/y to Rs8.8bn and the EBIT margin expanded to 6% (vs. 3.6% a year ago). The digital marketplace (Limeroad) revenue fell ~47% y/y to Rs62m and its EBIT loss declined to Rs51m (vs. Rs132m a year back).

Fig 7 – Quarterly results										
(Rs m)	Q1 FY26	Q 1FY25	Y/Y(%)	Q4 FY25	Q/Q (%)	FY25	FY24	Y/Y(%)		
Revenue	8,852	7,861	12.6	7,801	13.5	32,539	27,856	16.8		
Gross margins, %	35.3	35.2	9bps	33.1	219bps	34.5	34.5	7bps		
Employee expenses	950	841	13.0	974	(2.5)	3,634	2,871	26.6		
Other expenses	912	937	(2.6)	926	(1.5)	3,837	4,604	(16.7)		
EBITDA	1,262	990	27.5	681	85.2	3,771	2,131	77.0		
EBITDA margins, %	14.3	12.6	166bps	8.7	552bps	11.6	7.6	394bps		
Depreciation	679	568	19.6	544	24.9	2,330	2,221	4.9		
Other income	29	46	(36.9)	23	25.8	121	210	(42.1)		
Interest expense	182	375	(51.3)	174	4.8	1,365	1,424	(4.2)		
PBT	429	93	360.7	(13)	(3,428.7)	198	(1,305)	(115.2)		
Tax	93	(28)	(431.2)	44	113.2	(18)	(337)	(94.6)		
Tax rates, %	21.8	(30.3)	NA	(339.5)	NA	(9.2)	25.9	NA		
PAT – Rep.	336	121	176.8	185	81.5	458	(968)	(147.3)		
Source: Company										

Fig 8 – Performance, by segment								
(Rs m)	Q1 FY26	Q1 FY25	Y/Y(%)	Q4 FY25	Q/Q (%)	FY25	FY24	Y/Y(%)
Revenue								
V-Mart	7,407	6,500	14.0	6,532	13.4	26,962	22,361	20.6
Unlimited	1,383	1,245	11.1	1,164	18.8	5,071	4,722	7.4
Limeroad (commission revenue)	62	116	(46.6)	105	(41.0)	506	773	(34.5)
Total revenue	8,852	7,861	12.6	7,801	13.5	32,539	27,856	16.8
EBITDA								
V-Mart	1,063	869	22.3	623	70.6	3,392	2,431	39.5
Unlimited	245	224	9.4	126	94.4	689	416	65.6
Limeroad	(46)	(103)	(55.3)	(68)	(32.4)	(310)	(716)	(56.7)
Total EBITDA	1,262	990	27.5	681	85.3	3,771	2,131	77.0
EBITDA margins (%)								
V-Mart	14.4	13.4	98bps	9.5	481bps	12.6	10.9	171bps
Unlimited	17.7	18.0	-28bps	10.8	689bps	13.6	8.8	478bps
Limeroad	(74.2)	(88.8)	1,460bps	-64.8	-943bps	(61.3)	(92.6)	3,136bps
EBITDA margins (%)	14.3	12.6	166bps	8.7	553bps	11.6	7.7	394bps
Source: Company								

Other highlights

■ **Demand trends** in Q1 were positive despite the shift of Eid to the prior quarter, supported by strong footfalls and higher memo count, aided by a healthy wedding season in May.

While business momentum briefly slowed in parts of north India due to the Indo-Pak conflict and early monsoon, the region overall did well. By contrast, the East continued to be faced with challenges, particularly near the Bangladesh border, where footfalls were hit by a sharp decline in Bangladeshi consumers, a key demand segment, which has significantly reduced in the past 3-6 months.

Jul was slightly soft, but demand is expected to pick up from Raksha Bandhan and Durga Puja (advanced by 7-10 days), with Q2 likely to see a better y/y performance, especially in the latter half of Sep.

■ **SSSG** was 1% (8% the prior quarter and 11% a year ago). Normalized for Eid timing, SSSG was ~5% for both V-Mart and Unlimited.

Per management, the moderation in SSSG was due to the advancement of key festivals to Q4 FY25; it does not see this as a structural demand concern.

■ The **gross margin** was flat y/y at 35.3%, owing to a ~47% fall in Limeroad's revenue contribution, which flows entirely to the gross margin.

Excl. Limeroad, the gross margin expanded 60bps y/y to 34.8%, driven by better full-price sell-through and liquidation of aged inventory, leading to provision reversals. The company is refining its pricing and product-mix strategy to reinforce its value positioning and maintain a fresher product assortment via more efficient merchandise planning and execution.

- Expenses declined 160bps y/y, driven by a sharp cut in Limeroad's online marketing spend, which was partially offset by higher sourcing of online orders via V-Mart stores. Manpower costs rose 13% y/y owing to stores added and incentive-linked payouts. Other expenses fell 2.6% y/y, driven by lower marketing spends in the online business and reduced logistics costs, along with a few structural efficiency initiatives.
- The **EBITDA** margin (excl. Limeroad) expanded ~80bps y/y to 14.9%, driven by continuing operational efficiencies. Incl. Limeroad, where the EBITDA loss has shrunk ~55% y/y, overall EBITDA grew 27% y/y, with the consolidated margin rising 166bps to 14.3%. With Limeroad losses tapering, management sees potential for pre-Ind AS FY26 EBITDA margin to approach ~7%, though it is conservative in its outlook.
- V-Mart's (core) revenue grew 14% y/y to Rs7.4bn, bringing ~84% to overall sales in Q1. SSSG was 1% (7% the quarter prior; 12% a year back), while SSSG volumes were 1% (8%, 10%). Total ASP for its core business was flat y/y at Rs201 and ASP (apparel) grew ~2% y/y to Rs309. EBITDA grew 22.3% y/y to Rs1.1bn, with the margin expanding 98bps y/y to 14.4%.

The transaction size declined 3% y/y to Rs932. Sales per sq.ft. per month was flat y/y at Rs748.

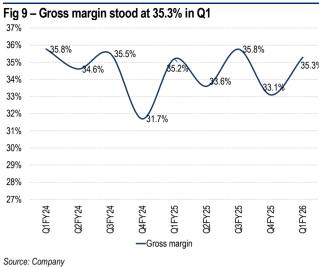
■ Unlimited's Q1 revenue grew 11.1% y/y to Rs1.4bn, bringing 15.6% to overall sales (flat y/y). SSSG was 1% (8%), while SSSG volumes were 5% (15%).

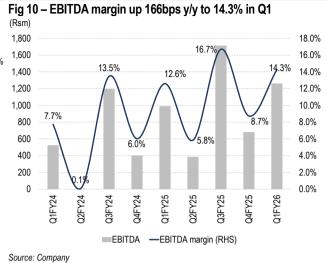
Total ASP fell 6% y/y to Rs396 as the company continues to push more value-led offerings under Unlimited. Given this focus, ASPs in Unlimited are unlikely to rise markedly in the near term. EBITDA grew 9.4% y/y to Rs245m and the margin, 17.7% (18% a year prior).

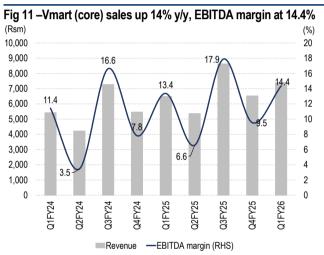
The transaction size declined 6% y/y to Rs1,716. Sales per sq.ft. per month grew $\sim 5\%$ y/y to Rs603.

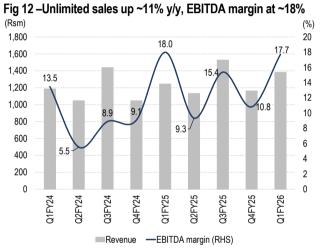
- Limeroad's commission revenue declined ~47% y/y to Rs62m, with its EBITDA loss narrowing ~55% y/y to Rs46m. The company continues to reduce marketplace exposure, drive cost efficiencies and sharpen its focus on breakeven targets over pure revenue growth. Management expects EBITDA losses to continue declining as efficiencies scale up.
- Store network. The quarter saw 13 net additions, taking the total store count to 510 (4.4m sq. ft.). YTD capex was Rs300m, primarily for store openings and refurbishments.
 - V-Mart added 10 stores and closed one, resulting in a net addition of nine, taking the total count to 421.
 - Unlimited added five stores and closed one with the net addition at four, taking the total count to 89.
- Inventory was Rs180m (93 days), marking a 5% y/y improvement. While per-store inventory rose slightly, it remained within a healthy range.
 - Provision for aged inventory reduced significantly to 0.7% (from 1.7% last year), driven by liquidation of old stock and tech-led enhancements across design, sourcing, quality control and replenishment. Further, management is targeting 70-75 days of inventory over the medium to long term.
- Outlook. Management has guided to mid- to high-teen revenue growth in FY26, aided by an early festival season, with Q2 expected to benefit from Durga Puja sales. SSSG is expected in the mid- to high-single-digits for the year. The company plans to add 65 (net) stores in FY26, translating to 12-15% (net) retail area growth. Store closures are expected to be limited (1-2%), as the bulk of rationalisation was undertaken last year. The focus remains on improving the product profile, enhancing design and display, and strengthening supply-chain integration to drive growth and margins.

Source: Company



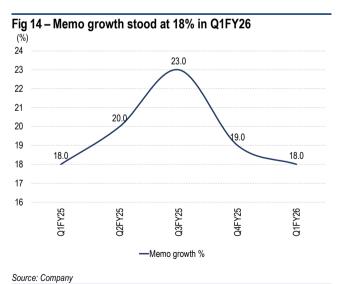






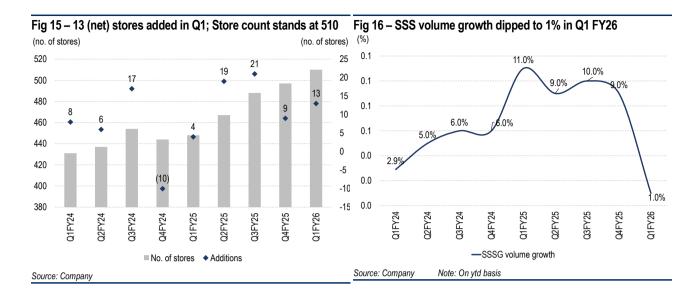


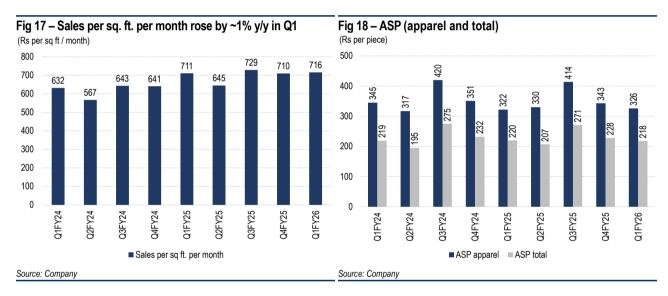


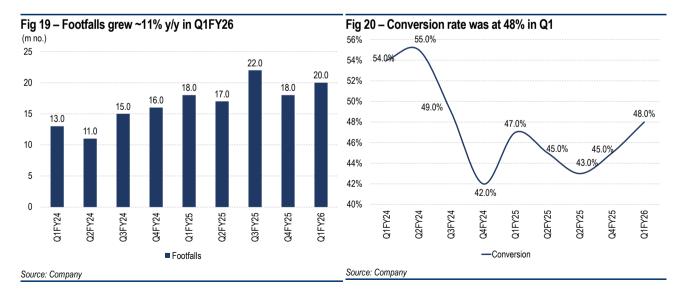


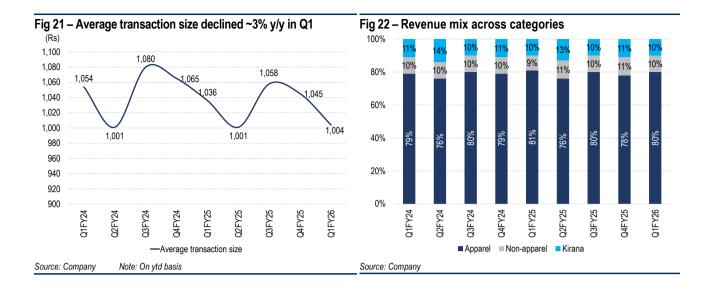
Anand Rathi Research 6

Source: Company









Change in estimates

Our FY26e/27e revenues are unchanged.

We increase our FY26e/27e EBITDA \sim 4.8% on average on consecutively better offline margins and lower Limeroad EBITDA losses over the last few quarters. Our FY26e/27e EBITDA margins are 60/53bps higher than earlier at 12.2%/12.4%.

Our FY26e/27e EPS increases are sharper at 16.2% on avg., led by the better EBITDA margin and IND AS 116 adjustments.

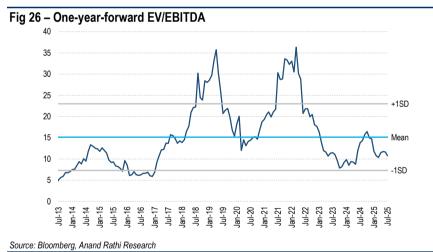
Fig 23 – Change in estima	ites					
	Old	Old		,	Change (%)	
	FY26e	FY27e	FY26e	FY27e	FY26	FY27
Revenue	37,893	44,843	37,893	44,843	0.0	(0.0)
EBITDA	4,399	5,331	4,626	5,570	5.2	4.5
PAT	760	1,438	928	1,587	22.1	10.4
EPS	9.7	18.3	11.8	20.1	22.0	10.3
Source: Anand Rathi Research						

Valuation

We retain our Buy recommendation with a 12-month TP of Rs1,208, 16x Sep'27e EV/EBITDA (19x FY27e EV/EBITDA).

Fig 24 - Valuation sum	ımary	
(Rs m)		Sep'27e
EBITDA		6,238
Multiple (x)		16.0
Enterprise value		99,804
Debt *		6,625
Cash and cash equivalents		2,073
Net debt		4,552
Market cap		95,253
No. of shares (m)		78.8
TP (Rs)		1,208
CMP (Rs)		803
Upside / (Downside) %		50.4
Source: Anand Rathi Research	* includes lease liabilities	

Fig 25 – Valuation parameters								
	FY24	FY25	FY26e	FY27e	FY28e			
P/E (x)	NA	NA	68.2	39.9	25.0			
EV / EBITDA (x)	26.3	17.2	15.1	12.4	9.7			
EV / Sales (x)	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3			
RoE (%)	(12.1)	5.9	10.8	16.2	21.3			
RoCE (%)	(0.7)	17.3	14.6	19.0	23.9			
Source: Company, Anand Ra	athi Research							



Risks

- Prolonged economic slowdown heightens consumer hesitancy in discretionary spending and could lead to sluggish demand.
- Keener competition from national and local retailers could curb performance. Market share could be lost due to stiff competition in the formal and grey markets.
- The company has been rapidly expanding beyond its strong northern market to the east and northeast. Less-than-expected growth or a gradual rise in stores in these markets could curb SSSG
- More investment in the digital channel may curtail core business profits.

Appendix

Analyst Certification

The views expressed in this Research Report accurately reflect the personal views of the analyst(s) about the subject securities or issuers and no part of the compensation of the research analyst(s) was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views expressed by the research analyst(s) in this report. The research analysts are bound by stringent internal regulations and also legal and statutory requirements of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (hereinafter "SEBI") and the analysts' compensation are completely delinked from all the other companies and/or entities of Anand Rathi, and have no bearing whatsoever on any recommendation that they have given in the Research Report.

Important Disclosures on subject companies Rating and Target Price History (as of 27 July 2025)



Anand Rathi Ratings Definitions

Analysts' ratings and the corresponding expected returns take into account our definitions of Large Caps, Mid Caps & Small Caps as described in the Ratings Table below:

Ratings Guide (12 months)				
	Buy	Hold	Sell	
Large Caps (Top 100 companies)	>15%	0-15%	<0%	
Mid Caps (101st-250th company)	>20%	0-20%	<0%	
Small Caps (251st company onwards)	>25%	0-25%	<0%	

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