

• What's Inside: India Construction, Hindalco (REDUCE), Jain Irrigation (ADD), Events calendar

Market Front Page

Index Movements	Closing	% Chg	% YTD
Sensex	14,724	(2.4)	(27.4)
Nifty	4,431	(2.2)	(27.8)
BSE Smallcap	7,110	(1.7)	(46.7)
CNX Midcap	5,805	(1.9)	(36.9)
Nasdaq	2,453	(0.0)	(7.5)
DJIA	11,660	0.4	(12.1)
IBOV	54,244	(1.6)	(15.1)
FTSE	5,455	(0.8)	(15.5)
CAC	4,454	0.7	(20.7)

Turnover	US\$m	% Chg
BSE	1,118	(2.9)
NSE	2,581	(8.6)
Derivatives (NSE)	11,126	8.0

FII F&O (US\$m)	Index	Stocks
Net buying	(112)	(46)
Open interest	8,058	4,382
Chg in open int.	(289)	(120)

Equity Flows (US\$m)	Latest	MTD	YTD
FII (13/8)	(160)	97	(6,649)
MF (12/8)	(62)	(54)	2,555

ADR/GDR (US\$)	Latest	% Chg	% Prem
HDFC Bank	84.7	0.8	2.6
Reliance	107.0	0.2	0.3
Infosys	42.4	0.4	6.9
Satyam	22.9	(1.2)	18.5
Wipro	11.7	(0.5)	16.1
ICICI Bank	31.1	(1.0)	(1.4)
SBI	69.0	0.1	1.2
ITC	4.4	(0.9)	(2.6)

Commodities	Latest	%Chg	%YTD
Gold (US\$/ounce)	788	(2.3)	(5.5)
Crude (US\$/bl)	114	(1.1)	18.5
Aluminium (US\$/MT)	2,780	0.1	15.4
Copper (US\$/MT)	7,360	(0.3)	10.3

Forex Rates	Closing	% Chg	%YTD
Rs/US\$	42.8	0.2	8.7
Rs/EUR	63.8	0.1	9.8
Rs/GBP	80.0	(0.9)	1.6

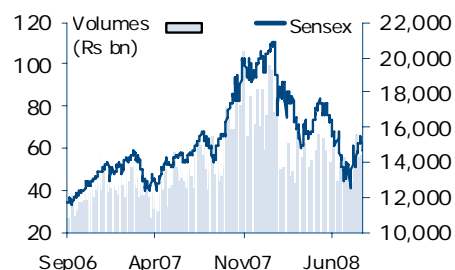
Bond Markets	Closing	bps Chg
10 yr bond	9.2	11.0
Interbank call	9.4	(10.0)

Corporate Front Page

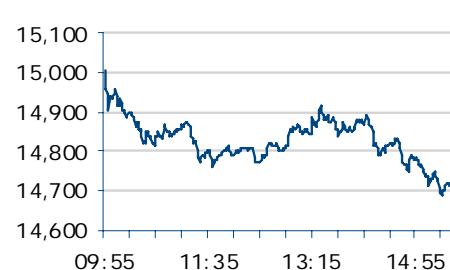
- **Reliance Infratel** scraps its plans for a Rs60bn IPO (TOI)
- **Idea Cellular** defers its open offer for an additional 20% stake in **Spice Communications** following a delay in approval (FE)
- GSM operators to defy TRAI's directive to give links to connect **Reliance Communications's** new network by 21 August (BL)
- **NMDC** to sign an agreement next week with global miner Rio Tinto to buy mineral assets (ET)
- **Jindal Steel and Power** to invest Rs183bn in Chattisgarh to set up a steel unit and a 1,000MW captive power plant (DNA)
- **Tata Steel** has kicked off fresh talks to sell the aluminum smelting business of Corus Group (ET)
- **Ispat Industries** and **Bhushan Steel** out of the race to get the iron-ore mines in Kawardha district of Chattisgarh (BS)
- Assessment of commerciality and development plan of **Gujarat State Petroleum Corp's** KG Basin gas find is likely to be completed by next month (BL)
- **Essar Oil** said its exploration blocks in Vietnam and Madagascar have shown initial indication of gas reserves of 2trn-3trn cubic feet and around 1bn barrels of oil (BS)
- **Indraprastha Gas** and two other companies have asked oil regulator to reject **Reliance Industries** EOI for six cities (ET)
- **Mahindra & Mahindra** plans to enter the US market with its diesel-powered trucks and SUVs (ET)
- **Punj Lloyd**, which is constructing two LNG tanks for **Petronet LNG** in Gujarat, may not meet its October deadline (Mint)
- **Bharti Airtel** says it has crossed the 75m customer mark to become the fourth largest in-country mobile operator in the world (FE)
- **Hotel Leelaventure** plans to increase its room tariffs (DNA)
- **ICICI Bank** decides to introduce floating rates of interest for two-wheelers (BS)
- **Idea Cellular** to launch wireless telephony services in Mumbai soon (ET)
- **Tata Power, CESC, DLF**, amongst others, respond to the EOI floated by Andrew Yule to divest up to 57.2% in DPSC (ET)

Charts Front Page

Sensex price volume



Sensex intraday



Market Front Page

Top Movers BSE 200

Top Gainers	Price (Rs)	Chg (%)	YTD (%)	Top Losers	Price (Rs)	Chg (%)	YTD (%)
Marico	63	6.5	-8.7	Indiabulls Real	304	-13.3	-59.1
Mphasis	227	5.3	-26.4	Dish TV India	36	-8.9	-64.7
Shree Precoated	111	4.9	-73.1	Canara Bank	205	-8.2	-38.2
Glenmark Pharma	665	4.8	11.7	Bombay Dyeing	564	-8.0	-25.5
HCL Tech	236	2.4	-28.4	IDFC	96	-7.9	-57.9

Volume spurts

Company	CMP	M.Cap	Vol. (in '000)	10D A.Vol (in '000)	% Chg
EIH	129	1,181	1,331	268	396
CESC	354	1,034	723	167	333
Exide Industries	72	1,345	845	263	221
Indian Hotels	80	1,349	4,591	1,513	203
Dabur India	91	1,838	1,606	546	194
Castrol India	315	910	183	72	155
BF Utilities	2291	2,016	84	36	134
Hexaware Technology	51	170	568	246	131
Raymond Ltd	201	288	125	62	101
Tata Chemicals	319	1,753	2,622	1,381	90

FII - FII trades

Scrip	13/8/2008			14/8/2008		
	Volume '000	Price	Prem %	Volume '000	Price	Prem %
Tata steel	926	615	0.3	924	624	0.6
Sbi	637	1,577	0.7	262	1,482	0.3
Grasim inds	32	2,100	2.5	46	2,100	2.0
Obc	10	172	3.0	9	164	2.5
Union bank	999	158	4.0	-	-	-
Allahabad bank	-	-	-	389	65	-
Iob	-	-	-	300	100	4.5
Pantaloon	-	-	-	25	465	21.0

Corporate Front Page

- Government puts on hold France's Societe Generale's proposed JV with **SBI** for operating custodial and depository services after RBI raised its concerns (TOI)
- **Reliance ADAG** lines up Rs1bn for advertising and promotional campaign for DTH roll-out (ET)
- Government plans to rope in **DLF, Omaxe** and **Rahejas** for Delhi slum redevelopment (ET)
- Goa-based **Dempo** Group plans to divest 40% in a company that will house its 100m-tonne iron ore reserve (BS)
- **Fortis Healthworld** will acquire pharmacy retail chain CRS Health as part of expansion (Mint)
- **Tata Power** planning and studying a minimum US\$3bn foray into nuclear power (ET)
- **JSW Steel**, which is setting up a 2mn tonne per annum coking coal facility in Mozambique, might not be able to complete its project on time (DNA)
- **Seshasayee Paper and Boards** plans to invest Rs3bn to double its printing writing paper production capacity to 225,000 tonnes. (BS)
- **Country Club India** has earmarked Rs2.5bn investment for its foray into the wellness tourism segment (ET)
- IFC weighing option to part-finance **GSPC** Gas Company's US\$140mn city gas distribution project in Gujarat (FE)
- **ONGC** will set up an integrated offshore supply base and processing unit in Andhra Pradesh (BL)
- **PNB** is in talks with Visa Inc to start its independent credit card business and is likely to launch the service by October (FE)
- **Reliance Industries** is looking at exporting diesel from its upcoming refinery at Jamnagar in Gujarat to Pakistan (ET)
- **Larsen & Toubro** in talks with Germany-based Voith to export paper machinery. (BL)
- **BHEL** announced an investment of US\$2.5bn in the next four years to ramp up capacity to meeting the growing electricity needs (FE)

Corporate Front Page

- **Indian Hotels** has earmarked Rs18bn for funding inorganic growth in the next three years (ET)
- **SBI** says Finance Ministry has approved the merger of State Bank of Saurashtra with itself (FE)
- TRAI to ask DoT to take action against GSM operators if they fail to connect their networks to **Reliance Communications** GSM network by August 21, 2008 (ET)
- **Nuclear Power Corp.** shortlists four suppliers for reactors (BL)
- **SCI** plans to purchase 40 vessels, including four very large crude containers, worth US\$2.5bn-3bn in the next three years (ET)
- **Sun Pharmaceuticals** says it has got US Federal Trade Commission approval for the open offer made to shareholders of Taro (FE)
- **Kingfisher Airlines** plans to launch its first international flight on 3 September (ET)
- **Air India** plans to save Rs10bn this fiscal by cutting operational costs (Mint)
- **BSNL** plans to offer bundled CDMA handsets (ET)
- **BHEL** is the best bidder in 2,400MW Debrand project of **Tata Power** and in the 1,050MW Orissa project of **Monnet Ispat** (BL)
- **EIH** plans to set up hotels in Bangalore and Goa for an investment of Rs6.5bn and has secured land in both the locations. (ET)

Economy Front Page

- Driven by higher fruit and fuel prices, inflation rises to 12.44% for the week ended August 2 (FE)
- DoT seeks PMOs approval to raise 2G spectrum usage charges for telecom operators (ET)
- DoT rejects Samajwadi Party leader's formula for levying a charge on GSM-based mobile operators with excess spectrum over 6.2MHz (FE)
- PSU general insurers may be allowed to tap market for additional funds (DNA)

Economy Front Page

- TRAI questions DoT's mobile number portability methodology (TOI)
- Duty-free export of steel items may get government approval (ET)
- DoT says it is open to auctioning 3G spectrum for CDMA (BS)
- Hotels across cities to hike tariffs by 10-50% (ET)
- Excise duty waived for goods used in ultra mega power projects (BL)
- Indirect tax collection increase 13.5% YoY in July (FE)
- FDI in Q1 FY09 exceeds total inflows in 2005-06 (Mint)
- Government has initiated a new scheme of generation based incentive (GBI) for wind power generation (ET)
- India Infrastructure Finance Company, an SPV floated by the government, will raise US\$1.2bn from foreign lenders (BS)
- Cement prices are likely to go up in the next one or two months due to increasing input costs, especially in wages, salaries and coal (BL)
- A single excise duty will be levied on all foreign liquors, irrespective of the prices, in Maharashtra (ET)
- Government may sell 4m tonnes of wheat to reduce prices (BS)
- CERC proposes a new tariff scheme for power generated from hydroelectric stations whereby the risks associated with changes in water flow would now be borne by producers instead of buyers (BS)
- World Bank will provide a US\$600m loan to India to part finance a US\$10.7bn education programme (FE)
- DoT invites proposals for 3G e-auction agency (ET)
- Government issues show-cause notice to 252 sugar mills for failing to submit monthly returns regarding dismantling of sugar buffer stocks (BS)
- Exporters may have to settle for a lower duty drawback rates for 2008-09 (BL)
- IRDA plans to frame guidelines for insurance companies' valuation. (ET)
- Commerce Ministry likely to propose reduction in iron ore export duty (FE)
- Ethanol producers are demanding double the current prices for the by-product (DNA)
- Government announced an average increase of 21% in salaries of 5m government employees wef 1 January 2006 (FE)

Insider Trades

Company	Name of Acquirer / Seller	Transaction Date	Buy /Sale	Quantity	Price (Rs)	Deal Size (Rs m)	Shares Transaction (%)	Holding after Transaction (%)
Asian Oilfield Services Ltd.	Avinash Chandra Manchanda	08/08/2008 - 12/08/2008	Sell	129,083	146.0	19	1.2	-
Dabur Pharma Limited	Fresenius Kabi (Singapore) Pte Ltd.	08/08/2008	Buy	353,409	62.0	22	0.2	-
Dabur Pharma Limited	Fresenius Kabi (Singapore) Pte Ltd.	11/08/2008	Buy	114,444,846	62.3	7130	73.0	90.9
Gokul Refoils and Solvent Limited	Pacific Corporate Services Ltd.	07/08/2008	Sell	737,595	218.0	161	2.8	7.7
IVRCL Infrastructures & Projects Ltd.	Citigroup Global Mkts (Mauritius) P Ltd.	06/08/2008	Sell	132,000	325.0	43	0.1	3.1
Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd.	Citigroup Global Mkts(Mauritius) P Ltd	08/08/2008	Sell	1,902,456	80.0	152	1.0	2.6

Deal Size worth more than Rs10m considered

BSE/ NSE - Bulk Deals

Company	Name of Acquirer / Seller	Transaction Date	Buy /Sale	Quantity	Price (Rs)	Deal Size (Rs m)
Cera Sanitaryware Limited	Deutsche International Trust Corp.(Mauritius)Ltd A/C Minivet	14/08/2008	Sell	39,616	130	5
CERA SANITRY	Deutsche International Trust Corp Mauritius Ltd Ac Minivet Fdi Ac	14/08/2008	Sell	35,384	135	5
K.P.R. MILL	Kotak Securities Ltd	14/08/2008	Buy	1,700,000	99	168
K.P.R. MILL	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd	14/08/2008	Sell	1,700,000	99	168
Sasken Commu Techno Ltd	Goldman Sachs Investments Mauritiusl Ltd	14/08/2008	Buy	178,071	154	27
Subex Limited	The Master Trust Bank Of Japan Ltd A/C Nomura India Invest	14/08/2008	Sell	221,240	108	24

Hyderabad visit update

We recently met managements of Nagarjuna Construction (NJCC), IVRCL Infra and Maytas Infra during our visit to Hyderabad. There was a fair deal of convergence on order inflow outlook and none of the companies expressed concerns that worsening macro environment would affect fresh order intake. However, the commentary on margins was divergent, with NJCC being the most worried about impact of input price increases and IVRCL expressing the most confidence about maintaining margins. Increase in borrowings and the resultant sharp increase in interest costs was also a cause of concern across companies. A prolonged adverse funding environment would impair growth of asset-owning businesses. In our view, IVRCL and Maytas's current order profiles equip them to face external challenges better than NJCC.

Companies sanguine on order inflows: Managements indicated that order inflows would remain strong, driven by capex in the water, irrigation, building, road and power sectors. NJCC is targeting inflows of Rs70bn during FY09, roughly the same as it was last year. IVRCL guided for end-FY09 order book of Rs170bn, implying an order inflow of Rs90bn, again flat YoY. Maytas has already seen strong inflows of Rs56bn during 1QFY09; this is 82% of the company's order book of Rs62.3bn as at end-FY08.

Revenue growth on track: With a strong order book in place, managements were confident about revenue growth prospects over the next couple of years. With the bulk of IVRCL's order book consisting of projects in its area of core competence (water supply/irrigation), the company does not see execution issues constraining growth. With initial mobilisation over for most large projects in its order book, NJCC also indicated that execution would likely be smooth and reiterated its revenue guidance of Rs45bn for FY09. Maytas expects a ~50% CAGR over FY08-10, driven by a huge order book and recent additions to project teams. However, the company indicated that availability of raw material could pose some problems.

High raw-material price is a concern for NJCC: All the three companies indicated that margins would be affected by input price increases. However, the extent would vary across companies. Only ~25% of NJCC's order book is based on star rates. Another 45% of the order book has partial pass-through clauses. NJCC's margins would be hit by the fixed-price BOT road projects and the blast-furnace order from SAIL. Since majority of IVRCL's order book has pass-through clauses, management is not unduly worried about EBITDA margins. There is not much concern for Maytas either, since majority of its order book has been won in 1QFY09. Also, in a couple of BOT projects, banks have agreed to increase project costs.

Rising interest rates are a concern: Rising interest rates are a concern for all the three companies. NJCC indicated that high increase in interest charges would likely lead to earnings remaining flat YoY in FY09. The impact on IVRCL's net margins would be muted, given the strong growth trajectory. Given low capitalisation and significant investment commitment in BOT projects, the debt-equity ratio would rise the fastest for Maytas. The company might have to raise fresh capital sooner rather than later.

Financial summary

Nagarjuna - Y/e 31 Mar	FY08A	FY09ii	FY10ii	IVRCL - Y/e 31 Mar	FY08A	FY09ii	FY10ii	Maytas - Y/e 31 Mar	FY08A	FY09ii	FY10ii
Revenue growth (%)	21.0	25.0	20.0	Revenue growth (%)	58.8	32.1	20.0	Revenue growth (%)	172.4	40.0	35.0
EBITDA margins (%)	10.4	9.7	10.0	EBITDA margins (%)	9.9	9.9	9.9	EBITDA margins (%)	12.7	12.0	12.0
EPS (Rs)	7.1	7.6	9.8	EPS (Rs)	15.4	16.77	20.5	EPS (Rs)	16.9	20.3	27.3
Growth (%)	8.0	7.5	28.0	Growth (%)	48.8	9.0	22.2	Growth (%)	87.6	19.9	34.6
PER (x)	18.7	17.4	13.6	PER (x)	20.8	19.1	15.6	PER (x)	25.3	21.1	15.7
ROE (x)	10.3	10.0	11.5	ROE (x)	12.9	12.3	13.0	ROE (x)	14.7	15.0	16.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	11.6	10.9	9.4	EV/EBITDA (x)	13.9	11.2	9.8	EV/EBITDA (x)	14.7	12.2	10.0

Source: Company, IIFL Research

Nagarjuna Cons (NJCC IN) - BUY

12-mth Target price (Rs) 201 (52%)

Market cap (US\$ m)	713
52Wk High/Low (Rs)	388/107
Diluted o/s shares (m)	231.3
Daily volume (US\$ m)	5.0
Dividend yield FY08ii (%)	0.9
Free float (%)	77.5

IVRCL Infra (IVRC IN) - BUY

12-mth Target price (Rs) 405 (27%)

Market cap (US\$ m)	1,017
52Wk High/Low (Rs)	575/250
Diluted o/s shares (m)	137
Daily volume (US\$ m)	8.7
Dividend yield FY08ii (%)	0.3
Free float (%)	90.4

Maytas Infra (MAY IN) - BUY

12-mth Target price (Rs) 518 (21%)

Market cap (US\$ m)	582
52Wk High/Low (Rs)	1152/370
Diluted o/s shares (m)	59
Daily volume (US\$ m)	0.4
Dividend yield FY08ii (%)	0.4
Free float (%)	63.4

Price performance (%)

	1M	3M	1Y
Nagarjuna	4.7	-34.1	-33.4
IVRCL Infra	7.0	-24.1	-15.7
Maytas Infra	-2.7	-33.2	-

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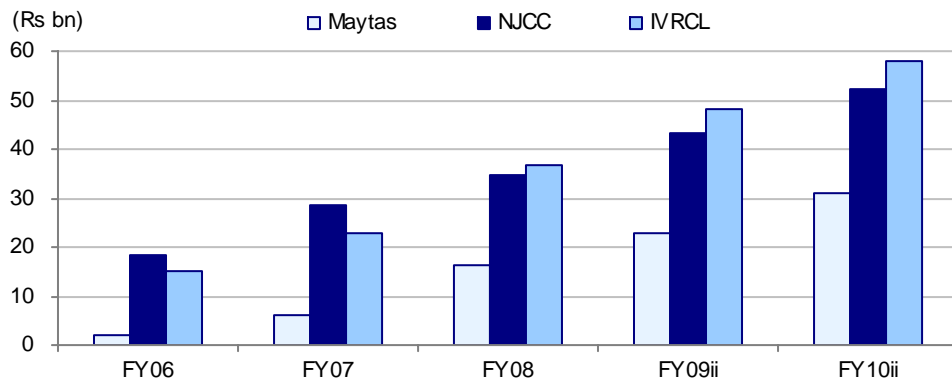
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Execution on track: Managements of all the three companies indicated that they are not facing any significant execution issues and hence were confident of achieving their revenue growth targets.

- With initial mobilisation over for most large projects in its order book, NJCC indicated that execution would likely be smooth and reiterated its revenue guidance of Rs45bn for FY09, implying YoY growth of 30%. We estimate standalone revenues of Rs43.4bn, lower than management's guidance.
- IVRCL continues with its strategy of focussing on executing simpler projects in its areas of core strength, where it has rich execution history. This strategy reduces risk of execution issues constraining revenue growth. Management indicated that revenues should increase by 35-40% over FY08-10.
- Maytas Infra has ramped up its execution capabilities over the past two years and posted revenue growth of over 170% in FY07 and FY08. With a strong order book of Rs11.5bn, growth visibility remains good. Management expects ~50% CAGR over FY08-10. Execution would be helped by recent additions to its project teams.

Figure 1: Strong revenue growth over FY08-10ii for the three companies



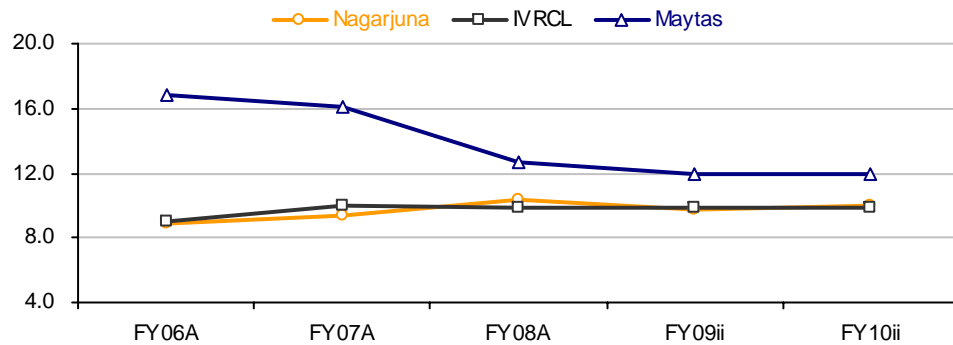
Source: Company, IIFL Research

EBITDA margins would be hit by rising raw-material prices

All the three companies expressed concerns that the recent surge in raw-material prices would adversely affect margins. However, the comments differed markedly.

- NJCC management indicated that raw-material price rise is a significant concern for the company, as about 30% of its order book has no price-variation clause. This includes road construction contracts for its BOT projects (6% of order book) and the Rs7.42bn (NJCC share) blast-furnace order from SAIL. All the international orders are also fixed-price; however, clients have agreed to pass-through of bitumen price rise for Muscat road project and steel/cement price rise for the Abu Dhabi buildings project. The Andhra Pradesh government too has allowed pass-through on its contracts for all construction contractors.
- Of the 70% order book with pass-through clauses, 25% orders are on star rates and have 100% pass-through. The balance 45% does not have 100% pass-through.
- IVRCL is not unduly worried about impact on margins due to input price inflation, as ~93% of the order book has pass-through clauses. Also, a significant proportion of water and building order book is from the Andhra Pradesh government, which has allowed pass-through in all existing construction contracts.
- Maytas reported EBTIDA margin of 16.1% in 1QFY09, 530bps higher than in the previous quarter, as the company was able to recover some price variation claims on irrigation projects. Management indicated that quarterly margins would remain volatile as price variation claims get recovered. Management was not worried about lower margins due to high raw-material prices, as ~48% of its current order book of Rs11.5bn was won in June-July 2008 and hence builds in revised raw-material prices.
- Maytas indicated that financiers for some of its BOT road projects have agreed to increasing projects costs to compensate construction contractors for increases in raw-material prices. This should help cushion the impact for its fixed-price BOT road construction contracts. NJCC, which partners Maytas in three road BOT projects, indicated no such relief from financiers.

Figure 2: We estimate stable margins over FY08-10 for the three companies



Source: Company, IIFL Research

Interest costs would hurt earnings growth for NJCC and Maytas:

Though rising interest cost is definitely a concern for all the three companies, the degree of impact differs widely.

- NJCC management indicated that its interest expense has risen sharply, given the combined impact of increase in interest rates and higher borrowings for financing working-capital requirements and investment in subsidiaries. Management said FY09 earnings could remain flat YoY because of the impact of higher input prices and higher interest expense.
- IVRCL is not very worried about rise in interest costs. High growth trajectory would mean that interest costs as proportion of revenues would not increase materially, thereby protecting net margins.
- Interest expenses for Maytas should also rise significantly, driven by the increase in borrowings for financing its working-capital growth and equity investments in the various SPVs for the road, power and metro projects. However, management expects that strong revenue growth of ~50% over FY08-10 should offset the rise in interest expenses and hence strong growth in revenues should translate into robust earnings growth as well.

BOT projects becoming operational should boost cash flows and valuations:

Execution of BOT projects across the three companies is on track. As these BOT projects become operational in the FY09 and FY10, cash flows from these companies could help finance further investments in asset business.

- NJCC’s three BOT road projects would become operational in FY10. While Bangalore Elevated Tollway and the Orai-Bhogpur annuity project would start operations by April 2009, the Western UP road project between Meerut and Muzaffarnagar would be operational by June 2009. The Bangalore Elevated Tollway and Western UP road project also has Maytas as one of the equity partners.
- The Pondicherry-Tindivanam project is scheduled to be complete by June 2010. Both Nagarjuna and Maytas hold stakes in this project.
- Initial mobilisation at the Himachal Sorang hydropower project is over and the project should be completed by 2012. Both Nagarjuna and Maytas hold stakes in this project.
- IVRCL Infra’s three BOT road projects—Salem Tollways, Kumarapalayam Tollways and Jalandhar-Amritsar Tollways—are likely to start operations in FY09. The annuity-based Chennai desalination project should also commence operations by end-FY09.

Companies plan to raise funds, but waiting for the right valuations

All the three companies indicated that they plan to raise funds but are waiting for valuations to improve.

- Nagarjuna Construction is looking to raise funds for its real-estate projects. However, PE deals in these projects have been stuck because of valuation differences. In the interim, the company is raising debt at the SPV level.
- Maytas Infra’s management indicated that strong revenue growth for the construction business and its portfolio of infra projects in the road, power and metro sectors would require significant cash investment. Given low capitalisation as compared to peers and significantly higher promoter stake, the company would look to raise further equity at the right valuations. In our view, the next round of funding post the IPO last year would happen sooner rather than later.

Hindalco - REDUCE

Metals

18 August 2008

Rights issue sweetened; in-line result by Novelis

Novelis reported EBIDTA of US\$176m for QE June 2008, higher than our estimate of US\$150m. The surprise in earnings came primarily from a metal price lag of US\$34m. Reported earnings of US\$25m were boosted by a US\$66m gain on derivative instruments. Hindalco has priced its forthcoming rights issue at Rs96 and changed the rights ratio to 3:7 from 1:3. We believe Hindalco's stock will continue to be weighed down by refinancing of the US\$3.03bn debt taken to fund the Novelis acquisition, Novelis's negative impact on consolidated earnings and weakness in LME aluminium prices. Retain REDUCE.

- **Underlying EBIDTA at US\$112m:** Novelis's reported EBIDTA of US\$176m for QE June 2008 included US\$64m accretion from the reserve created at the time of acquisition by Hindalco. Adjusted for this, underlying EBIDTA came in at US\$112m, which was further boosted by metal price lag of US\$34m (the company gains on its aluminium inventory in a rising-price environment).
- **Refinancing bridge loan remains a challenge:** Bridge loans of US\$3.03bn taken to fund Novelis acquisition will come up for refinance in November 2008. The company will fund US\$1.2bn through a rights issue but is yet to finalise financing of the balance amount. Interest rates have moved up by 200-300bps over the past year and raising debt will not be easy in the current environment—which means it will likely have to dip into its treasury.
- **Aluminium prices to remain weak:** Despite several announcements of production cuts at aluminium smelters, we expect the metal to remain in surplus. Aluminium consumption is also slowing down in line with production. This will negatively affect the company's profitable upstream operations in India.
- **Novelis to remain a drag on cash-flow:** Novelis's earnings will continue to be weighed down by price ceilings till FY10. Even beyond FY10, meaningful debt repayment is unlikely, as interest cost and recurring capex will leave less than US\$100m (acquisition price US\$6.1bn).

CMP	Rs136
12-mth Target price (Rs)	151(11%)
Market cap (US\$ m)	4,232
Bloomberg	HNDL IN

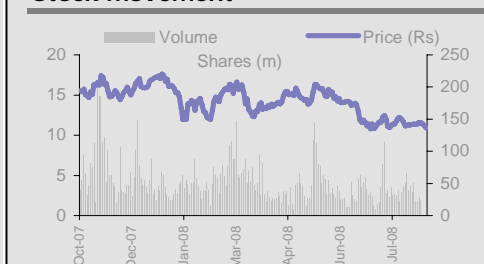
52Wk High/Low (Rs)	220/135
Diluted o/s shares (m)	1,307
Daily volume (US\$ m)	13.3
Dividend yield FY08 (%)	1.3
Free float (%)	68.6

Shareholding pattern (%)	
Promoters	31.4
FII's	12.3
Domestic MFs/Insurance cos	16.1
Others	40.2

Price performance (%)

	1M	3M	1Y
Hindalco	-1.7	-29.3	-11.7
Rel. to Sensex	-18.0	-16.0	-9.8
Sterlite	-9.5	-27.5	1.9
NALCO	0.6	-21.3	53.8

Stock movement



Financial summary

Y/e 31 Mar	FY06A	FY07A	FY08ii	FY09ii	FY10ii
Revenues (Rs m)	112,045	183,130	192,010	216,004	199,487
EBITDA margins (%)	21.5	21.9	17.7	22.3	20.1
Pre-exceptional PAT (Rs m)	14,637	26,495	23,202	33,823	27,951
Reported PAT (Rs m)	16,557	25,643	28,609	33,823	27,951
EPS (Rs)	16.8	24.6	23.3	19.5	16.1
Consolidated EPS (Rs)	16.0	25.7	19.5	15.6	12.4
Growth (%)	20.0	46.3	-5.1	-16.5	-17.4
PER (x)	8.1	5.5	5.8	7.0	8.5
Consolidated PER(x)	8.5	5.3	7.0	8.7	11.0
ROE (%)	17.2	20.6	16.4	12.5	9.5
Debt/Equity (x)	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2
EV/EBITDA (x)	6.1	3.4	4.4	4.2	5.0
Price/Book (x)	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8

Price as at close of business on 14 August 2008. Source: Company, IIFL Research

Figure 1: Quarterly financial summary

Rs m	1QFY08*	4QFY08	1QFY09	% YoY	% QoQ
Revenues	2828	2862	3103	9.7	8.4
Costs					
Cost of goods sold	2641	2576	2831	7.2	9.9
As % of revenues	93.4	90.0	91.2		
SG&A	137	90	84	-38.7	-6.7
As % of revenues	4.8	3.1	2.7		
R&D	19	12	12	-36.8	0.0
As % of revenues	0.7	0.4	0.4		
Others	32	0	0	-100.0	NM
EBIDTA	-1	184	176	NM	-4.3
EBIDTA margins	0.0	6.4	5.7		
Other income / expense	-15	-7	-22	46.7	214.3
Financial expense	51	45	40	-21.6	-11.1
Depreciation	78	110	116	48.7	5.5
Gains on change in value of derivative	34	22	66	94.1	200.0
Operating PBT	-111	44	64	NM	45.5
Provision for tax	40	-73	35	NM	-147.9
PAT	-151	117	29	NM	-75.2
Share in profit of associate	0	5	-2	NM	-140.0
Minority interest	2	2	2	NM	0.0
PAT for shareholders	-153	120	25	NM	-79.2

*YoY numbers are not comparable, given several one-time adjustments related to acquisition recognised in 1QFY08

Source: Company, IIFL Research

Figure 2: Novelis's underlying EBIDTA significantly lower than reported

US\$ m	4QFY07	1QFY08	2QFY08	3QFY08	4QFY08	1QFY09
Reported EBIDTA	76	-1	168	150	184	176
Transfer from reserve	0	44	85	76	65	64
Underlying EBIDTA	76	-45	83	74	119	112
As % of reported EBIDTA	100	NM	49.4	49.3	64.7	63.6

Source: Company, IIFL Research

Figure 3: Calculation of normalised EBIDTA

US\$ m	1QFY08	2QFY08	3QFY08	4QFY08	1QFY09
Reported EBIDTA	-1	168	150	184	176
Less: Transfer from reserve	44	85	76	65	64
Add: Impact of contracts	80	60	45	45	78
Add: Impact of metal price leg	-11	4	-9	-4	-34
Add: Impact of one time expense	32	0	0	0	0
Normalised EBIDTA	56	147	110	160	156

Source: Company, IIFL Research

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Acquisition integration: teething troubles

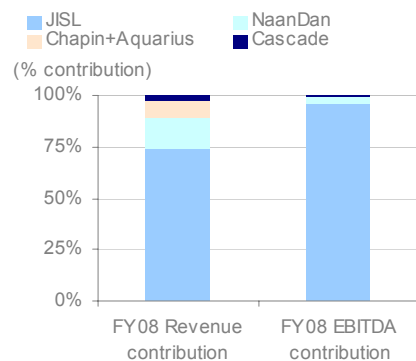
JISL's consolidated earnings for FY08 came in 12% below our estimate, as margins of overseas subsidiaries fell short of our expectation as did revenue growth at US subsidiaries affected by the housing slowdown. We expect restructuring of subsidiaries and improved integration of these acquisitions to improve their margins by 200-300bps, but reduce our earnings estimate for FY09 by 7.5% and for FY10 by 10%, in view of lower-than-expected FY08 consolidated earnings. We continue to expect strong growth in the domestic business, which accounts for ~70% of JISL's earnings. In line with the downward revision in our earnings estimate, we lower our 12-month target price from Rs600 to Rs553 and downgrade the stock from BUY to ADD.

Micro-irrigation segment (MIS) subsidiaries' margins poor: JISL's US-based subsidiaries Chapin and Aquarius barely broke even at the EBITDA level, severely affected by the housing slowdown. The company has restructured these businesses and changed the revenue mix to increase share of drip irrigation, for which agri-based demand remains strong. Israel-based NaanDan was affected by rising costs, though management indicated that realisations have improved in recent months. We expect these subsidiaries' margins to improve by 200-300bps during FY09.

Domestic growth remains on track: Demand from the MIS and agro-processing segments remains robust. The piping division's margins could see near-term pressure, owing to delays in capex plans in the private sector (especially telecom), though demand from public infrastructure investments should partly offset this demand weakness. We continue to expect strong revenue growth (30% CAGR over FY08-11) and stable margins for JISL's standalone operations.

Integration issues, forex losses pose downside risk: Our expectation of margin improvements hinges on successful integration and restructuring of acquisitions. Any slowdown or failure in integration poses downside risks. Management said it has entered into derivative contracts to hedge forex earnings. Should the rupee stay at current levels, we estimate forex losses from these contracts could drag earnings lower by 4-5%.

Subsidiary EBITDA contribution lower than expected



Financial summary

Y/e 31 Mar	FY07A	FY08A	FY09ii	FY10ii	FY11ii
Revenue (Rs m)	12,390	22,159	28,460	34,756	41,895
EBITDA margins (%)	14.5	15.5	16.0	16.6	16.9
Pre-exceptional PAT (Rs m)	797	1,376	1,885	2,638	3,313
Reported PAT (Rs m)	797	1,325	1,885	2,638	3,313
EPS (Rs)	13.6	16.3	23.2	32.5	40.8
Growth (%)	67.4	19.9	42.3	39.9	25.6
PER (x)	37.7	31.5	22.1	15.8	12.6
ROE (%)	19.7	15.8	16.2	16.9	17.9
Debt/Equity (x)	2.8	1.6	1.4	1.1	1.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	30.6	17.1	13.6	11.0	0.0
Price/Book (x)	10.9	5.3	3.7	2.7	2.3

Price as at close of business on 14 August 2008

Source: IIFL Research

12-mth Target price (Rs) 553 (8%)

Market cap (US\$ m) 869

52Wk High/Low (Rs)	770/410
Diluted o/s shares (m)	72
Daily volume (US\$ m)	2.1
Dividend yield FY08ii (%)	0.4
Free float (%)	67.5

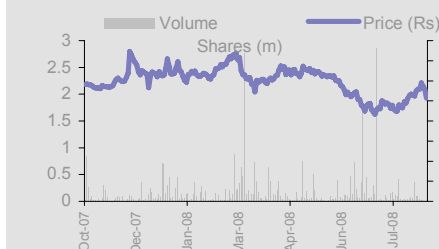
Shareholding pattern (%)

Promoters	32.5
FII's	43.2
Domestic MFs	7.8
Others	16.5

Price performance (%)

	1M	3M	1Y
Jain irrigation	6.1	-20.3	6.2
Rel. to Sensex	-10.1	-5.2	8.0
IVRCL	19.3	-24.8	-15.7
Finolex	8.6	-21.8	-26.6
Lakshmi energy and foods	-1.0	6.9	28.0

Stock movement

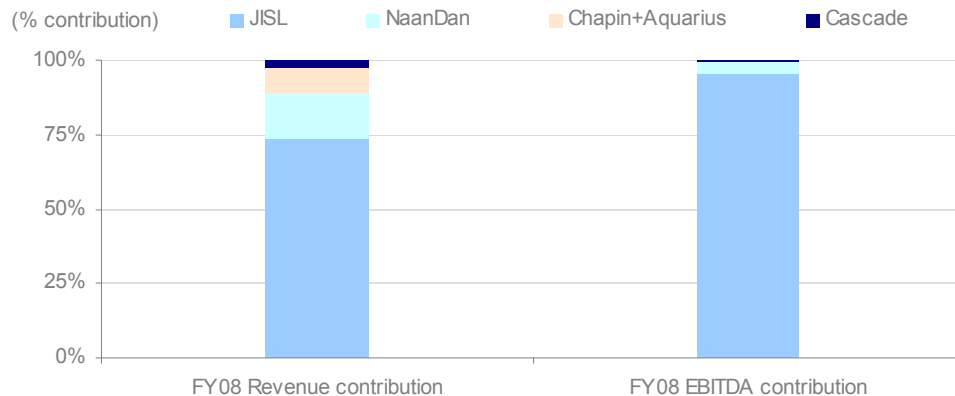


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Subsidiaries' earnings lower than expected

JISL's micro-irrigation subsidiaries—the US-based Chapin and Aquarius, and Israel-based NaanDan Irrigation—registered revenue in line with our expectation though margins fell short of our expectation, because of lower demand in the US and lower realisations for NaanDan. Management indicated that Chapin and Aquarius together just broke even at the EBITDA level (vs our estimate of 7% margin), while NaanDan recorded an EBITDA margin of 7% (vs our estimate of 11%). JISL's food-processing subsidiary, the US-based Cascade, registered an EBITDA margin of 17%, in line with our expectation.

Figure 1: Subsidiary earnings lower than expected; domestic growth on track



Source: IIFL Research

Figure 2: Subsidiaries' margins should expand after restructuring

Entity	FY08 revenues (Rs m)	EBITDA margin	Comments
JISL	16,712	19.7%	Margin up 350bps YoY
NaanDan	3,500	7%	Higher realisations, more sourcing from India and cross-selling should improve margins by 100-150bps
Chapin+ Aquarius	1,900	0%	Restructuring efforts, plant shutdowns, better product mix should improve margins by 200bps
Cascade	516	17%	Higher realisations should improve margins by 300bps

Source: IIFL Research

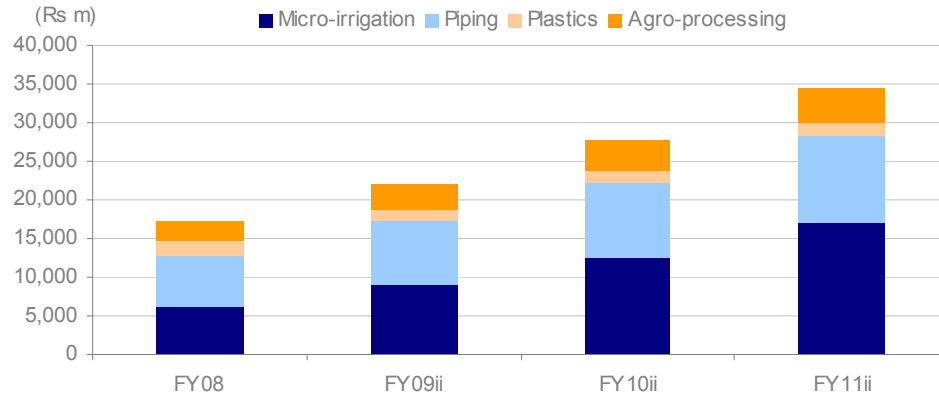
Chapin and Aquarius hit by housing slowdown: Both Chapin and Aquarius reported poor offtake of sprinkler systems (which form a large share of their revenues) because of the housing slowdown. Management said it has merged the two companies into one called JHI Group and restructured their operations by shutting down two of the four plants in the US. It has also changed the product mix to include a larger share of drip-irrigation systems, which cater to the agriculture segment and continue to see strong offtake in the US. We expect these restructuring efforts to help expand the company's EBITDA margin by 200bps.

NaanDan margin affected by cost pressure: NaanDan's margin were lower partly because of lower price realisations and rising input costs. Management said the company has raised prices over the past few months, offsetting cost increases. It also said the company would increase its sourcing of products from JISL's plants in India, to alleviate cost pressures. We expect these measures to improve EBITDA margins by 200bps.

Cascade's margins may expand as realisations improve: The US-based food-processing subsidiary recorded an EBITDA margin of 17% and revenue of US\$13m, in line with our estimates. Management indicated that realisations had improved further in recent months, driven by strong demand in the processed-foods category. We expect higher price realisations to improve EBITDA margins by 300bps.

Domestic growth on track

Figure 3: Domestic business - revenue growth to be led by MIS, agri-processing



Source: IIFL Research

Micro-irrigation segment continues to post healthy growth: JISL standalone revenue rose 64% in FY08 and 87% in 1QFY09, indicating continued strength in demand. The company's realisations have been rising faster than its costs, as reflected in the 100bps YoY expansion in its EBITDA margin in 1QFY09. We remain positive on this segment's growth prospects and expect 45% YoY revenue growth during FY09.

Piping segment to see some margin pressure in the near term due to changing revenue mix: Management indicated that demand for HDPE pipes is beginning to see a modest slowdown, especially in the telecom segment, where capex plans have been postponed. However, demand from public infrastructure investments and from overseas markets (Middle East and Africa) remains strong. As such, we see little risk to our revenue growth estimate of 22% for FY09, though margins will be under pressure as share of HDPE pipes (on which EBITDA margin was 10-12% in FY08) will be lower this year.

Plastics slowdown in line with expectation: We continue to expect a deceleration in the plastics business, owing to weakness in the US housing segment. We expect 15% YoY decline in this business during FY09.

Agro-processing set to see strong growth: We expect continued strong growth and margin expansion in the agro-processing segment, driven by healthy demand for processed foods and strong price realisations. The company expects to increase fruit-processing capacities by 35% and onion-processing capacities by 20% this year. Availability of raw material for processing should not be an issue, given strong growth in fruit and vegetable output in India (owing to healthy rainfall in the northern region).

Figure 4: Company plans 20-50% capacity expansion across segments during FY09

Segment ('000 tpa)	FY07	FY08	FY09ii
Micro-irrigation	56	72	110
Piping			
PVC	65	79	101
PE	50	71	108
Plastics	36	36	36
Agro-processing			
Onion dehydration	15	15	18
Fruits	81	89	120

Source: JISL, IIFL Research

We lower our PAT estimates for FY09 by 7.5% and FY10 by 10%: Drivers of our downward revision for FY09 include: a) lower-than-expected margin in overseas subsidiaries (of 6.8% vs our earlier estimate of 8%); and b) margin pressure in the piping business due to change in revenue mix (9.2% vs our previous estimate of 10.5%). On the other hand, we raise our margin estimate for the micro-irrigation segment to 27.5% (from 27%) in view of continued strength in realisations and raise our revenue growth estimates for this segment, to 28.4% (from 28% earlier).

Forex losses represent potential downside: Management said it has entered into forex derivative contracts to hedge ~15% of its net forex earnings. As these contracts were entered into over the last few months, it is likely that they built in a rupee 5-8% stronger than it is now. Should the rupee stay at current levels, we reckon the company

will report forex losses of Rs80m-90m (which would be 4% of its FY09ii earnings).

Water projects offer potential upside: The company's JV with the Israel-based water management company Mekorot is under negotiations for potential water management projects. These projects will likely be turnkey in nature, with EBITDA margins of 15-18%, higher than the piping segment's margins of 9-11%. Should the JV win any water management contracts, earnings from these projects offer potential upside to our FY10 estimates.

We lower our 12-month target price in line with the cut in our earnings estimate: Based on our sum-of-the-parts framework, we lower our target price from Rs600 to Rs553. The per-share value of the micro-irrigation segment is lower by 10.5% (on account of the overseas subsidiaries' lower margins) and the per-share value of the piping business is lower by 6.2% (on account of near-term pressure on margins following change in revenue mix). On our revised earnings estimates, the 12-month target price represents a PE of 23.8x on FY09ii and 17x on FY10ii.

Figure 5: Sum-of-the-parts valuation gives a value of Rs553

Segment	Peer sector	1-yr fwd P/E multiple	Per-share value (Rs)
Micro-irrigation	Infrastructure	18.0x	379
Piping	Infrastructure	18.0x	89
Plastics	Construction	6.0x	2
Agro-processing	Food processing	10.0x	83
Total			553

Source: IIFL Research

The revised target price represents an upside of 8% and we lower our recommendation to ADD from BUY.

Financial summary

Income statement summary (Rs m)

Revenue growth driven primarily by demand for agri-inputs in India as well as the US

Large part of interest expense towards working capital in the micro-irrigation business

Y/e 31 Mar	FY07A	FY08A	FY09ii	FY10ii	FY11ii
Revenue	12,390	22,159	28,460	34,756	41,895
EBITDA	1,793	3,442	4,545	5,761	7,078
EBIT	1,456	2,884	3,938	5,105	6,294
Net Interest expense	713	1,327	1,412	1,658	1,961
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	0
Others	305	401	142	278	335
Profit before tax	1,042	1,942	2,668	3,725	4,667
Taxes	200	540	747	1,043	1,307
Minorities and other	46	25	36	44	47
Net profit	797	1,376	1,885	2,638	3,313

Cashflow summary (Rs m)

Capex of Rs2.5bn-3bn on increasing capacities in all segments

Conversion of warrants held by promoters expected to bring in equity during FY09 and FY10

Y/e 31 Mar	FY07A	FY08A	FY09ii	FY10ii	FY11ii
Profit before tax	1,042	1,942	2,668	3,725	4,667
Depr. & amortization	337	558	608	656	784
Tax paid	-89	-233	-374	-522	-653
Working capital Δ	-1,792	-5,705	-4,833	-3,389	-3,531
Other operating items	-298	17	0	0	0
Operating cashflow	-800	-3,422	-1,931	471	1,268
Capital expenditure	-2,563	-2,655	-2,500	-2,750	-2,800
Free cash flow	-3,364	-6,077	-4,431	-2,279	-1,532
Equity raised	451	1,371	1,725	1,194	-23
Investments	0	-440	0	0	0
Debt financing/disposal	1,586	5,965	2,932	1,401	1,954
Dividends paid	-259	-197	-227	-317	-398
Other items	175	155	0	0	0
Net change in cash	-1,410	777	0	0	0

Source: Company data, IIFL Research

Balance sheet summary (Rs m)

Y/e 31 Mar	FY07A	FY08A	FY09ii	FY10ii	FY11ii
Cash & equivalents	443	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036
Sundry debtors	3,585	6,556	8,421	10,284	12,396
Inventories - trade	4,697	8,099	10,790	12,767	14,653
Loans and advances	1,162	2,831	3,509	4,285	5,165
Other current assets	101	174	4,414	4,762	7,127
Net fixed assets	5,802	7,760	5,999	8,093	7,309
Intangible assets	664	1,201	1,201	1,201	1,201
Other term assets	1,527	1,892	690	690	690
Total assets	17,981	29,551	36,060	43,118	49,577
Short-term debt	2,772	6,243	9,868	12,409	15,057
Sundry creditors	4,021	6,793	7,193	8,421	9,768
Other current liabs	1,123	620	620	620	620
Long-term debt/CBs	5,918	6,513	5,820	4,680	3,986
Other long-term liabs	0	0	0	0	1
Minorities/other equity	989	1,534	1,412	1,372	1,614
Net worth	3,158	7,847	11,146	15,615	18,531
Total liabs & equity	17,981	29,551	36,060	43,118	49,578

Micro-irrigation segment (MIS) is working-capital-intensive; increase in current assets in line with growth in MIS

Short-term debt represents mostly working-capital credit

Ratio analysis

Y/e 31 Mar	FY07A	FY08A	FY09ii	FY10ii	FY11ii
Revenue growth (%)	47.1	78.8	28.4	22.1	20.5
Op Ebitda growth (%)	39.5	91.9	32.1	26.7	22.9
Op Ebit growth (%)	43.1	98.1	36.5	29.6	23.3
Op Ebitda margin (%)	14.5	15.5	16.0	16.6	16.9
Op Ebit margin (%)	11.8	13.0	13.8	14.7	15.0
Net profit margin (%)	6.4	6.2	6.6	7.6	7.9
Dividend payout (%)	15.8	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
Tax rate (%)	19.1	27.8	28.0	28.0	28.0
Net debt/equity (%)	204.0	134.2	126.2	102.7	97.2
Return on equity (%)	19.7	15.8	16.2	16.9	17.9
Return on assets (%)	4.4	4.7	5.2	6.1	6.7

Margin improvement largely driven by restructuring of overseas subsidiaries' operations

RoE to improve as acquisition integration begins to bear fruit

Source: Company data, IIFL Research

Events calendar – August 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 June Foreign Trade	2
4	5 Hind Motor	6	7 Welspun Guj WPI for 26 Jul	8	9
11 June IIP	12 UTV Soft	13 Peninsula Land	14 WPI for 2 Aug	15	16 Divi's Lab
18 SIB	19	20	21 WPI for 9 Aug	22	23
25	26	27 Sun TV	28 WPI for 16 Aug	29 1QFY09 GDP	30 AGM SAIL-10 Sept

Blue: Economic data, Orange: AGM



We have moved to a new recommendation structure from 14 July. The key objective of the change is to provide an unequivocal view on each stock, either positive or negative.

BUY - Absolute - Stock expected to give a positive return of over 20% over a 1-year horizon.

SELL - Absolute - Stock expected to fall by more than 10% over a 1-year horizon.

In addition, we introduce **Add** and **Reduce** recommendations based on expected returns relative to a hurdle rate. Investment horizon for **Add** and **Reduce** recommendations is up to a year. We assume the current hurdle rate at 10%, this being the average return on a debt instrument available for investment.

Add - Stock expected to give a return of 0-10% over the hurdle rate, ie a positive return of 10%+.

Reduce - Stock expected to return less than the hurdle rate, ie return of less than 10%.

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