

Industry Flash

3 November 2008 | 11 pages

Indian Property Sector

2Q FY09 Review: Disappointing Quarter

- Significantly below estimates Revenues and EBITDA margins declined for most companies on a YoY and a QoQ basis. This, along with spiraling interest costs, adversely impacted 2Q earnings. Although a seasonally weak quarter, we do not see a major recovery in the near-term.
- Operationally, visible signs of slowdown A deteriorating macro has resulted in lacklustre sales for most developers this festive season, a key dampener for the outlook over the next 6-12 months: 1) Pace of pre-sales/construction activity has slowed; 2) most developers have held back new launches and are focusing on delivery of pre-sold/leased assets; 3) price/rental pressures are building up and we see significant delays given capital constraints.
- Liquidity crunch intensifies; rising debt/rates reflect this With a significant slowdown in pre-sales, we see higher risks of debt re-financing and debt/interest defaults for the sector as the liquidity crunch intensifies. Rising net debt/equity levels to ~1.x-plus in 2Q FY09 for most players and incremental interest cost of ~15-18% (vs.11-13% in Mar 08) are of concern.
- We see high risk to NAVs and earnings We today cut our NAVs and earnings estimates (see individual company notes) factoring in: 1) 15-20% price declines as developers start offering discounts/incentives to boost sales; 2) higher debt levels, interest costs and discount rates of 17-18% (vs.16% earlier) given the liquidity crunch; 3) significant demand/execution delays; and 4) elimination of satellite city projects (e.g. Dhankuni, Bidadi, Vizag) from our NAVs where visibility in very low.
- Stocks that have corrected appear attractive, but risk/reward still unfavorable Indian property stocks have corrected sharply by 50%-plus over the past month and valuations appearing attractive on a 40%-plus discount to NAVs. However, with the sector in the midst of a liquidity crisis, we see tough times ahead and cut our targets on higher discounts of 25-50% (vs. 10-45% earlier) as NAVs remain at risk (see individual company notes).
- Focus on... and avoid... Focus on players with low leverage, a good asset geo-graphic mix and strong execution record. Avoid developers with high gearing and resident-heavy models, particularly in North India. We prefer DLF as a relatively insulated play in these tough times; retain Hold on Unitech and Sells on Omaxe, Parsvnath, Ansal Prop and Puravankara given higher risks.

See Appendix A-1 for Analyst Certification and important disclosures.

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	RIC	Price (Rs) 31-Oct	Mkt Cap (US\$ M)	Rating	Target Price	Est NAV	Current NAV Disc
						450	
DLF	DLF.BO	220	7,605	1M	340	453	-51%
Unitech	UNTE.BO	48	1,581	2H	57	103	-53%
Puravankara	PPRO.BO	48	206	3H	52	104	-54%
Parsvnath	PARV.BO	41	152	3H	42	83	-51%
Omaxe	OMAX.BO	58	204	3H	52	104	-44%
Ansal Properties	ANSP.BO	44	100	3H	40	80	-46%

Figure 1. India Real Estate — Valuation Snapshot

DLF

Valuation

Our target price of Rs340 is based on a 25% discount to our Mar09E NAV of Rs453. Our NAV includes Rs380 for the development portfolio and Rs74 for other asset holdings and new JV businesses (Rs53/share for the existing 9m sq ft of leased assets and 7.2m sq ft of plots and Rs20/share for DLF's share in construction and hotel JVs). The lower discount vs. peers (45%-50%) is attributed to: 1) leverage to both office/IT Parks and retail assets provides access to capital in a liquidity-strained market; 2) a relatively de-leveraged balance sheet; 3) a strong execution track record; and 4) the company is a benchmark for disclosure standards. We believe an NAV-based valuation methodology is most appropriate for developers, as it factors in the varied development projects and the spread-out time frame. Our March 2009E NAV is based on: 1) 15% decline in current market prices; 2) development volume of 452msf (vs. 677msf earlier) as we eliminate satellite city projects of Dhankuni and Bidadi from our portfolio given low visibility in current environment; 3) a cap rate of 10% for commercial/IT Park, IT SEZs in Super Metros and Metros, and 11% for other locations; 4) development portfolio is executed over a 10-12-year period; 5) average cost of capital of 17% given tight liquidity; and 6) a tax rate of 25%.

Risks

We rate DLF Medium Risk. The main risks to our investment thesis and target price include: 1) The company's asset sale strategy remains contingent on capital flows; 2) Response to DLF's new mid-income project launches in FY09 is crucial for growth ahead and cash flows; 3) Slowdown in the IT/ITES industry could lead to a decline in demand for commercial real estate; and 4) Slowdown in capital inflows or measures to regulate FDI in the real estate sector.

Unitech

Valuation

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Our target price of Rs57 is based on 45% discount to Mar09E NAV of Rs103. The discount is largely attributed to: 1) increased risks from leveraged balance sheet; 2) potential execution delays; and 3) weakening property outlook amid investor fears of rising interest rates. This is higher than the 25% discount we ascribe to DLF due to DLF's higher gearing towards commercial assets,

benchmark in disclosure standards, strong balance sheet and sizeable assetportfolio accruing leasing income.

Our NAV estimate of Rs103 is based on the following assumptions: a) 15% price decline to current market prices; b) development volume of 388msf as we eliminate satellite city projects of Dhankuni, Vizag, Varanasi and Agra from our portfolio given low visibility in the current environment; c) average cost of capital of 18%, given its tight liquidity conditions; d) cap-rates of 10%-11%; e) we ascribe Rs16.5 per share in our NAV (Rs103) towards Unitech's balance 40% stake in the telecom venture at a 25% discount to \$1.78b telecom venture valuations; and f) tax rate of 27%. The stock is has declined significantly over the last three months and we see moderate upside potential from here.

Risks

We rate Unitech High Risk due to: 1) high debt levels relative to peers; and 2) delay in launch of the company's projects in South India. Downside risks include: 1) Significant delay in listing of Office Trust/asset monetization of retail and hotel assets could adversely impacting cash flows, given high gearing; 2) Any litigation on allocation of spectrum for its telecom license across all circles would adversely impact stock sentiment and stock performance; 3) Continued slowdown in residential demand and sustained high mortgage rates would negatively impact our NAV assumption and our earnings estimates going forward; 4) Potential supply and execution risks would negatively impact our NAV assumptions. Upside risks include: 1) Any decrease in interest rates that could help increase demand for Unitech's residential projects; 2) Any early developments relating to divestment of stake in the telecom venture that could boost stock sentiment. If any of these risk factors plays out, Unitech's share price is likely to deviate significantly from our target price.

Puravankara Projects

Valuation

Our target price of Rs52 is based on a 50% discount to our NAV of Rs104. We ascribe the discount to: 1) Puravankara's concentration risk in Bangalore; 2) the company's residential-heavy business model, exposing its business to demand/pricing risks; 3) possible execution delays; and 4) lower investor preference for tier-two players with low stock liquidity. We believe an NAV-based valuation methodology is most appropriate for property developers, as it factors in the varied development projects and spread out time frame. Our NAV estimate of Rs104 is based on the following assumptions: 1) current market prices; 2) 15-24-month delay in project execution; 3) development volume of ~110m sq ft (as ~6m sq ft is already/to be recognized as revenue till FY09); 5) an average cost of capital of 18% given tight credit/volatile capital markets; and 6) a tax rate of 28%.

Risks

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We rate Puravankara High Risk, reflecting: 1) its extremely high volatility; 2) reduced risk appetite for real estate stocks globally, particular smaller regional players, as most developers are facing fund constraints; and 3) the company's large exposure to South India, the country's IT hub. Residential demand could take a hit if the IT/ITES sector slows down markedly. Main upside risks to our

target price are: 1) any decrease in home loan rates would stimulate demand for residential property; and 2) faster than expected execution of projects.

Parsvnath Developers

Valuation

Our target price of Rs42 is based on a 50% discount to our NAV estimate of Rs83. We accord a discount because: 1) The company is concentrating on tiertwo and -three cities; 2) execution risk is high given the company's presence across 49 cities; and 3) demand and pricing risks exist given that Parsvnath's residential-heavy business model could result in liquidity constraints. We believe an NAV-based valuation methodology is most appropriate for valuing Parsvnath, as it factors in the company's varied development projects and spread-out time frames. Our NAV estimate assumes: a) 20% decline to current market prices; b) development volume of 167m sq ft after elimination of c44m recognized as revenue until FYO9E and some area representing collaborators' share; c) average cost of capital of 18% given tight liquidity; and d) a tax rate of 27%.

Risks

The key reasons for rating Parsvnath High Risk include: 1) the company's concentration in the NCR, where the risk of excess supply over the next 2-3 years is high; 2) aggressive development plans, which raises the risk of execution delays; and 3) evolving regulatory and political risks for the sector's growth. Our High Risk rating is in line with our quantitative risk-rating system, which tracks 260-day historical share price volatility. The main upside risks to our investment thesis and target price include: 1) Any positive developments on execution of the 9 SEZ projects would enhance the company's NAV and valuations; 2) The company is exploring opportunities to monetize some of its assets through stake sale to private equity funds. If this materializes, it would provide sizeable cash flows and boost stock sentiment; 3) Any downward revision in interest rates for housing projects would benefit the company, given its high leverage to the residential segment.

Omaxe

Valuation

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Our target price of Rs52 is based on a 50% discount to our NAV estimate of Rs104/share. The discount reflects the reduced risk appetite for real estate stocks, high volatility in the capital markets, the difficult economic environment and Omaxe's concentration in Tier I and Tier II cities in NCR and North India where the risk of excess supply is high. Further price pressures, higher interest rates and the risk of project execution delays amid sluggish demand conditions, add to this. We believe NAV is the most appropriate valuation method for Omaxe as it factors in: a) landbank; b) the size of the overall development opportunity, and differences based on market segments, location, scale and spread-out time frames; and c) execution. Our NAV estimate assumes: 1) 20% decline in property prices; 2) development volume of 101m sq ft (as ~50m is already/to be recognized as revenue until FY09); 3) an average cost of capital of 18% and 4) a tax rate of 34%.

Risks

We rate Omaxe shares High Risk. Key reasons for our High Risk rating are: 1) concentration in the NCR; 2) aggressive development plans that raise the risk of execution delays; and 3) evolving regulatory and political risks for sector growth. Upside risks to our target price are:1) Any downward revision in interest rates for housing loans, which would increase demand in the residential segment; 2) Rapid acquisition of land for the multi-product SEZ at Alwar will enhance NAV and valuations; and 3) Timely execution of ongoing projects, and successful new launches.

Ansal Properties & Infrastructure

Valuation

Our target of Rs40 is based on a 50% discount to Mar09 NAV estimate of Rs80. We attribute the discount to: 1) concentration in the NCR and Tier III cities in north India where risk of property prices softening in the near-term is high, 2) large exposure to plotted development (33% of development), a low value-add business, and 3) risk of delays for some large township projects, particularly the Dadri project where land is still being acquired. We believe a NAV-based valuation methodology is the most appropriate valuation method for property stocks. Our NAV estimate includes: 1) 20% decline in property prices; 2) development volume of ~176m sq ft (~39m is/to be recognized as revenue until FY09E); 3) average cost of capital of 18% and 5) a tax rate of 34%.

Risks

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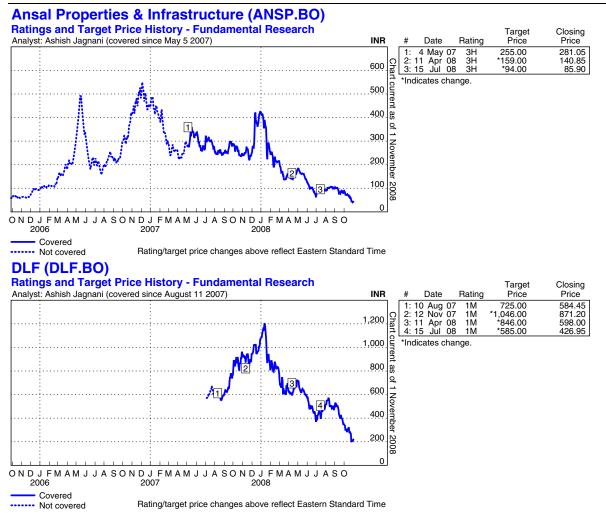
We rate Ansal Properties High Risk. Reasons for High Risk rating are: 1) its high dependence on plotted development at 33% of landbank; 2) concentration of landbank in Tier II and Tier III cities in northern India, where risk of excess supply over the next 2-3 years is high and 3) evolving regulatory and political risks for sector growth. The main upside risks to our investment thesis and target price are: 1) Timely aggregation of land for its Dadri project (20% of landbank) will increase visibility and enhance our NAV estimates; 2) Geographic diversification of landbank into other parts of India would help alleviate concerns of concentration of landbank in northern India; 3) Any downward revision in interest rates would positively benefit the company, given its high exposure to the residential segment. If any of these risk factors has a greater impact than we expect, the share price would likely move above our target price.

Appendix A-1

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Omaxe (OMAX.BO)

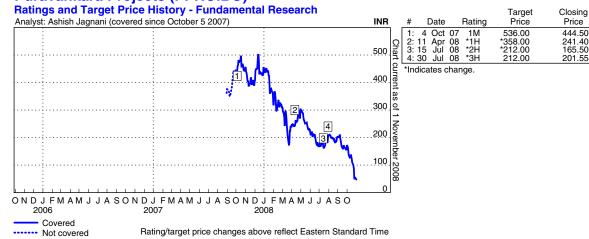


Parsvnath Developers (PARV.BO)

Ratings and Target Price History - Fundamental Research



Puravankara Projects (PPRO.BO)



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Unitech (UNTE.BO)



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