NESTLE Filling capacity to the brim

India Equity Research | Consumer Goods

We recently met Nestle management. Volume growth which has been lower than expectation in the past few quarters remains challenging due to discretionary slowdown in foods and high competitive intensity in Coffee, Chocolates and Noodles. On the positive side, the company's capacity is now largely in place to meet any demand. Also roping in Amitabh Bachchan for its brand Maggi has aided a revival in the brand's volume growth. Few innovations like Milkmaid Creations Kulfi have done exceptionally well. However, raw material pressure remains high. We expect a pick-up in the new product pipeline aided by the likely commencement of its R&D center and backed by aggressive ad spends (new focus on digital and regional media) that might help reverse the slowdown in sales. Maintain 'HOLD'.

Capacity largely in place; managing RM costs remains a challenge

Competition has become an issue, especially in Chocolates (Cadbury), Noodles (ITC) and Coffee (HUL). We expect Nestle to increase the intensity of innovations/new launches as the company's capacity is largely in place. However, RM pressure persists as its Commodity Basket Price Index has gone up from 138 in CY11 to 148 in YTD CY12.

Expansion plans, distribution reach to aid growth

Nestle has spent INR22.7bn on capex over the last six quarters, more than its gross block of INR18.6bn at the end of CY10 (~100 years' gross block), thus underlining its commitment to expand in India. Also, the company is likely to make continuous efforts to increase its distribution reach in North-East India.

Outlook and valuations: Fairly valued; maintain 'HOLD'

Nestle is the best play in the packaged food category in India over the longer term. We believe that volume growth would recover in coming quarters due to corrective actions taken by Nestle and its intense focus on new product launches. However, rising input cost is a worry. At CMP, the stock is trading at 39.7x CY12E and 32.7x CY13E and appears fairly valued over the near term. We maintain **'HOLD/ Sector Performer'**.

Financials				
Year to December	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13E
Revenues (INR mn)	62,547	74,908	86,872	103,318
Rev. growth (%)	21.9	19.8	16.0	18.9
EBITDA (INR mn)	12,497	15,528	18,325	22,538
Net profit (INR mn)	8,187	9,615	11,266	13,675
Shares outstanding (mn)	96	96	96	96
Diluted EPS (INR)	84.9	99.7	116.8	141.8
EPS growth (%)	25.0	17.5	17.2	21.4
Diluted P/E (x)	54.6	46.5	39.7	32.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	35.4	29.2	25.2	20.4
ROAE (%)	114.0	90.3	74.7	67.4



EDELWEISS 4D RATINGS				
Absolute Rating		HOLD		
Rating Relative to Sector		Performer		
Risk Rating Relative to Sector		Low		
Sector Relative to Market		Equalweight		
MARKET DATA (R: NEST.BO,		,		
CMP	:	INR 4,635		
Target Price	:	INR 4,900		
52-week range (INR)	:	5,024 / 3,925		
Share in issue (mn)	:	96.4		
Share in issue (mn) M cap (INR bn/USD mn)		96.4 447/ 8,032		

SHARE HOLDING PATTERN (%)

	Current	Q4FY12	Q3FY12
Promoters %	62.8	62.8	62.8
MF's, FI's & BK's	7.7	7.8	8.0
FII's	10.9	11.0	10.9
others	18.6	18.4	18.3
* Promoters pledged shares (% of share in issue)		:	NIL

PRICE PERFORMANCE (%)

	Stock	Nifty	EW Consumer Goods Index	
1 month	3.5	0.6	4.6	
3 months	2.9	6.8	11.5	
12 months	5.6	5.1	32.5	

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"Rural is now growing slower than urban. We didn't see much slowdown in April, but June onwards, it has been bad" -Praveen Kulkarni, GM marketing, Parle Products speaking on slowdown in discretionary categories like biscuits.

Milk products & nutrition category is the only segment which increased as a % of its sales while contribution from the rest declined.

Key takeaways from management meet

Capacity largely in place, discretionary slowdown in foods

The discretionary food category has been facing some slowdown. Also, competition, especially in Chocolates (Cadbury), Noodles (ITC) and Coffee (HUL) has been hurting Nestle's volume growth. Real internal growth (RIG) for Nestle has gone up to 6.5% YoY in H1CY12. However, we expect Nestle to increase the intensity of innovations/new launches since it has most of the capacity in place. Also, on the positive side, the company's capacity is now largely in place to meet demand. By setting up its 9th manufacturing plant at Sanand, Gujarat, in addition to brownfield projects in Karnataka (INR3.6bn) to expand noodles capacity, Goa (INR5bn) for confectionaries, Punjab (INR2bn) for chocolates and greenfield expansion each in Haryana (INR6bn) and Himachal Pradesh (INR4bn-5bn), Nestle is preparing to meet the growing demand for its products and launch new ones.

Chart 1: Diversified product portfolio (% of net sales)

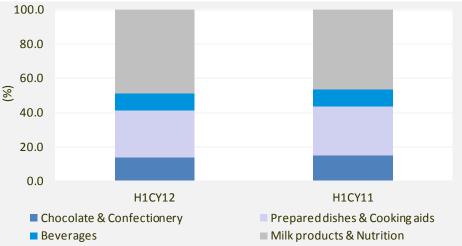
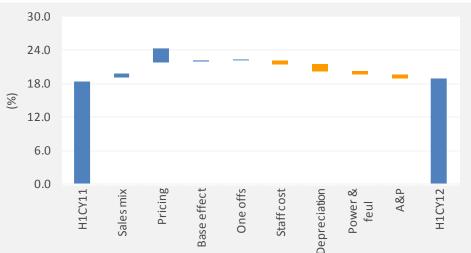


Chart 2: Contributors & diluters to EBITDA%



Source: Company, Edelweiss research

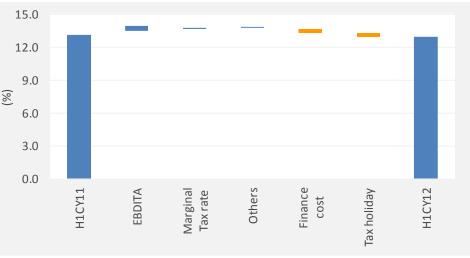


Nestle





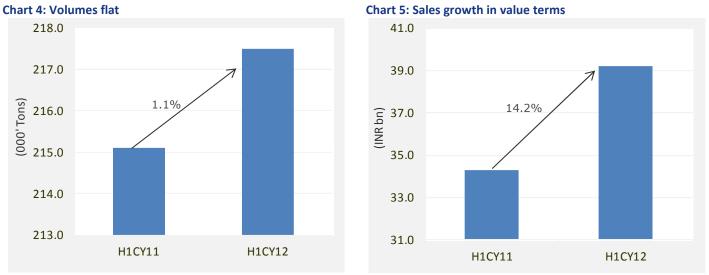
Chart 3: Contributors & diluters to PAT%



Source: Company, Edelweiss research

Third party sales

Third party sales increased 1.1% (volume) and 14.2% (value) YoY in H1CY12.



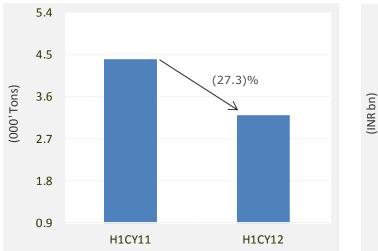
Source: Company, Edelweiss research

Exports: Revival seen as ban on milk powder goes

Nestlé's exports sales declined 27.3% (volume) and 19.1% (value) YoY in H1CY12, primarily due to a ban on milk powder exports. However, a revival in growth is expected as the ban on exports has been lifted.



Chart 6: Volumes head downwards





Source: Company, Edelweiss research

Growth across categories: Volume growth to remain demanding

Prepared dishes & cooking aids category showed a robust volume growth in H1CY12 YoY. However, chocolates disappointed largely due to competition from Cadbury. Volume growth will remain challenging in the coming quarters due to the discretionary slowdown in foods besides the persisting high competitive intensity.

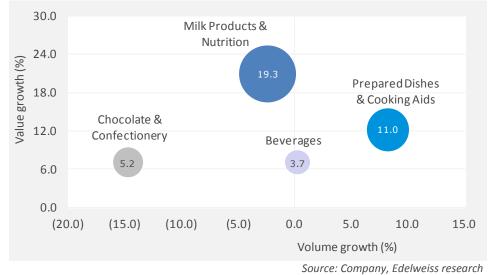


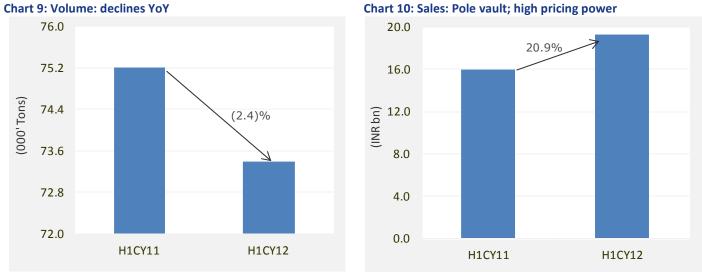
Chart 8: Growth across categories

Milk products and nutrition: New launches fare well

Milk segment contributes the highest to overall sales at 49.2%. Nestle has weeded out the non-strategic part of its portfolio. A part of this segment such as baby foods and instant formula offer high entry barriers since no advertising is allowed in these categories. Nestle is the prime player in baby foods, instant formula, diary whitener and sweetened condensed milk. Also, some innovations like Milkmaid Creations Kulfi have done exceptionally well. Though the company's sales declined ~2.4% in volume terms, it increased 20.9% in value



YoY. RIG for the category was 12.8% YoY in H1CY12. Recent product launches include Junior Daheez, Baby Me, Milkmaid Creations and innovations in Lactogen 1 and Cerelac.



Source: Company, Edelweiss research

Prepared dishes and cooking aids: Sustains dominance

This segment remains the primary growth driver and accounts for 27.9% of sales. Nestle's sales in this segment grew at a strong ~8.2% by volume and 12.2% by value YoY for H1CY12 - faster volume growth compared to other segments in spite of high competition in this segment. RIG for the category stood at 12.1% YoY for H1CY12. However, roping in Amitabh Bachchan for Maggi has helped a revival in its volume growth. The company remains the dominant player in instant noodles, sauces and pasta besides being a number two in healthy soups.

Fig 1: Nestle has surprisingly roped in Amitabh Bachchan for Maggi

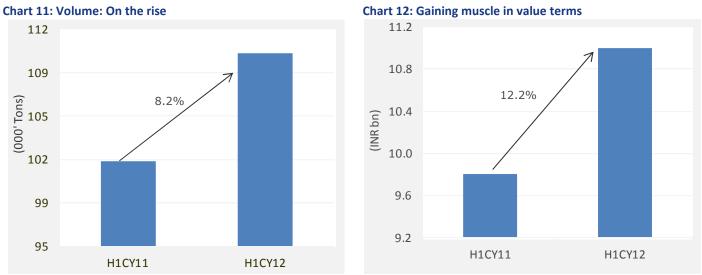


Source: Company



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Source: Company, Edelweiss research

Beverages: HUL turns heat

In this segment (9.5% of sales), the company's sales grew by a mere 0.2% (value) and 7.1% in volume in H1CY12. RIG also disappointed with a growth of 0.9% YoY. Nestle is the dominant force in instant coffee and has a strong presence in vending. Competition remains high with HUL becoming the market leader in the instant coffee segment in volume terms. Also, recent innovations include launch of Nescafe Caramel Macchiato.

Chart 13: Volumes disappoint Chart 14: Pricing power save the day 10.0 3.8 3.7 9.9 7.1% 0.2% (000' Tons) (INR bn) 3.6 9.9 3.5 9.8 3.4 9.8 3.4 9.7 H1CY11 H1CY12 H1CY11 H1CY12

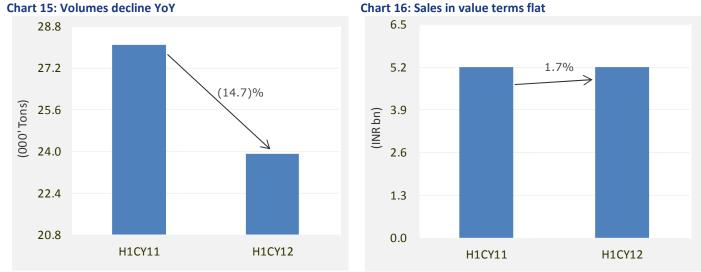
Source: Company, Edelweiss research

Chocolates and confectionary: Launches new products

This segment accounts for 13.4% of total sales. Competition remains high with limited pricing power. Nestle is numero uno in wafers and white chocolates. Overall, it is a leading player in chocolates. In chocolates and confectionary, the company's sales had declined 14.7% (volume) and increased by a mere 1.7% (value) YoY in H1CY12. RIG for the category stood at 2.8% YoY. Recently, the company also introduced new products like Munch Rolls and Dark Chocolate Dry Fruits.

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Source: Company, Edelweiss research

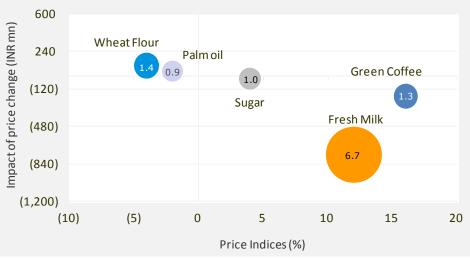
Capex moves as per plan

In recent years, Nestlé has stepped up its capex (to meet the growing demand for its products and launch new ones) which includes setting up new factories to increase capacity and modernise and expand existing ones. This includes a new manufacturing site in Nanjangud in Karnataka producing Maggi sauces, noodles, bouillons and seasoning, and another one at Tahliwal, Himachal Pradesh, which will manufacture Maggi noodles as well as chocolate and confectionery products. Also, Nestle is coming up with its ninth manufacturing plant at Sanand, Gujarat at a cost of ~INR4bn. The company has already spent ~INR5.4bn in H1CY12 and has capital commitments of another ~INR2.8bn.

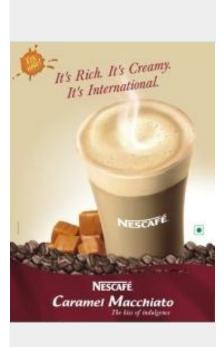
Managing raw material costs remains a challenge

Nestlé's Commodity Basket Price Index has gone up from 138 in CY11 to 148 in YTD CY12. All key raw materials which include milk (up 10.8% over CY11- YTD), sugar (up 6%) and green coffee (up 14.4%) continue to remain a worry for the company as prices have firmed up significantly.



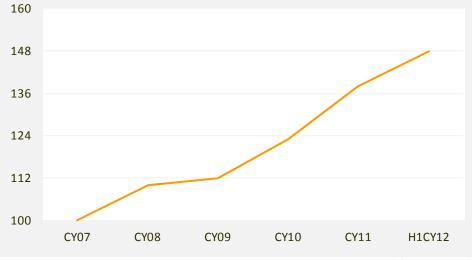


Source: Company, Edelweiss research



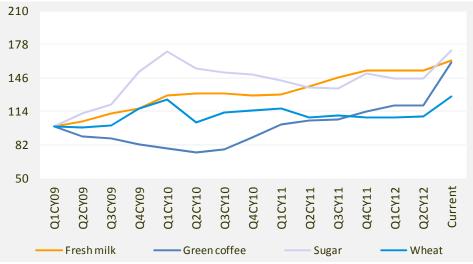






Source: Company, Edelweiss research





Source: Company, Edelweiss research



Company Description

Nestle, a 62.8% subsidiary of its parent Nestlé S.A. of Switzerland, is India's third largest FMCG company after HUL and ITC. The company set up its first factory at Moga, Punjab, to develop milk production. Over the years, Nestlé has set up eight factories across the country, and is now involved in manufacturing and marketing a range of quality products. It has well-established brands, including Maggi, Nescafe, Lactogen, KitKat, and Milkmaid. Nestlé enjoys leadership position in its core categories like baby foods, instant noodles, and instant coffee. It enjoys a distinct advantage over competitors in the F&B space on account of its strong focus on developing products around the nutrition, health, and wellness platform, and a culture of renovation and innovation in its offerings, backed by strong parent support.

Investment Theme

Nestle India (Nestle) is the best play on Indian processed food industry, which is on a high growth trajectory with multiple growth drivers in place, including low penetration levels, rising income levels, urbanisation, and changing lifestyle. Nestlé with established brands across food categories is expected to be a major beneficiary of this growth. Nestle is increasingly focusing to expand into tier II and tier III cities by introducing stock-keeping units (SKUs) below INR 10. Also, company has effectively leveraged its recent innovations/renovation positioned on health and wellness platform to gain incremental sales. Nestle's high pricing power on account of strong brand equity shall aid in fighting margin pressure despite inflationary concern. Low volume growth in the past couple of quarters is a cause of concern.

Key Risks

Sharp increase in input costs

Sharp rise in the prices of its key inputs such as milk, wheat flour, edible oils, and sugar could impact margins adversely.

Competition from new entrants

GSK Consumer, ITC and HUL entered the noodles category in select markets and this could increase the ad spend for Nestlé. Nestlé also faces competition from dairy cooperatives like Amul and Mother Dairy, which have low focus on maintaining profit margins. Increase in competition could also limit Nestlé's ability to pass on input price hikes to consumers.

Failure of new product launches

Nestlé has launched premium variants in various categories such as chocolates, noodles, ketchup, and dairy products, which could face risk of failure due discretionary slowdown in foods.



Financial Statements

Macro Assumptions	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13E	FY14E
GDP(Y-o-Y %)	8.4	8.4	6.5	6.4	7.0
Inflation (Avg)	3.6	9.9	8.8	7.0	6.0
Repo rate (exit rate)	5.00	6.75	8.50	7.25	6.75
USD/INR (Avg)	47.4	45.6	47.9	53.5	50.0
Company Assumptions	СҮ09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13E
Volume growth (domestic) % YoY	12.3	15.0	4.7	3.9	5.6
Pricing change (domestic) % YoY	10.0	14.7	13.7	10.2	11.3
COGS as % of sales				47.8	
A&P as % of sales	47.7 5.2	48.9 4.8	47.9 4.4	47.8	46.4
AQP ds % UI sales	5.2	4.0	4.4	4.0	5.0
Income statement					(INR mn
Year to December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13I
Net revenue	51,294	62,547	74,908	86,872	103,318
Materials costs	24,484	30,556	35,894	41,530	47,976
Gross profit	26,810	31,992	39,015	45,342	55,342
Employee costs	4,324	4,334	5,465	6,342	7,749
Other expenses	9,466	12,135	14,746	16,680	19,88
Advertisement & sales costs	2,675	3,026	3,276	3,996	5,16
EBITDA	10,345	12,497	15,528	18,325	22,53
Depreciation & Amortization	1,216	1,278	1,637	2,033	2,61
EBIT	9,129	11,219	13,890	16,292	19,92
Other income	378	427	509	542	70
Provision for contingencies	323	184	469	-	
Interest expenses	14	11	51	388	59
Profit before tax	9,170	11,451	13,879	16,446	20,03
Provision for tax	2,620	3,264	4,264	5,181	6,36
Net profit	6,550	8,187	9,615	11,266	13,67
Shares outstanding (mn)	96	96	96	96	9
Diluted EPS (INR)	67.9	84.9	99.7	116.8	141.
Dividend per share (INR)	48.5	48.5	48.5	58.4	70.
Dividend payout (%)	71.4	57.1	48.6	50.0	50.
Common size metrics - as % of net revenues					
Year to December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13
Materials costs	47.7	48.9	47.9	47.8	46.
Employee expenses	8.4	6.9	7.3	7.3	7.
EBITDA margins	20.2	20.0	20.7	21.1	21.
Net profit margins	12.8	13.1	12.8	13.0	13.3
Growth ratios (%)					
Year to December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13
Rev. growth (%)	18.6	21.9	19.8	16.0	18.
EBITDA	19.8	20.8	24.3	18.0	23.0
Net profit	16.0	25.0	17.5	17.2	21.4
EPS growth (%)	16.0	25.0	17.5	17.2	21.4

Total or country					Nestl
Balance sheet					(INR mn)
As on 31st December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13E
Equity capital	964	964	964	964	964
Reserves & surplus	4,848	7,590	11,775	16,479	22,188
Shareholders funds	5,813	8,554	12,740	17,443	23,152
Secured loans	-	-	8	8,869	8,869
Unsecured loans	-	-	9,700	10,840	10,840
Borrowings	-	-	9,709	19,709	19,709
Deferred tax liability	320	333	435	435	435
Sources of funds	6,133	8,887	22,883	37,587	43,296
Gross block	16,408	18,547	25,522	34,709	45,709
Depreciation	7,446	8,420	9,765	11,797	14,411
Net block	8,962	10,127	15,758	22,911	31,298
Capital work in progress	796	3,489	14,186	20,000	17,000
Investments	2,033	1,507	1,344	1,344	1,344
Inventories	4,987	5,760	7,340	7,572	8,977
Sundry debtors	642	633	1,154	1,012	1,176
Cash and equivalents	1,556	2,553	2,272	4,064	4,669
Loans and advances	1,380	1,514	1,964	1,964	1,964
Total current assets	8,566	10,460	12,730	14,613	16,785
Sundry creditors and others	5,876	7,617	10,096	10,242	12,092
Provisions	8,348	9,079	11,038	11,038	11,038
Total current liabilities & provisions	14,224	16,696	21,135	21,281	23,131
Net current assets	(5,658)	(6,236)	(8,404)	(6,668)	(6,345)
Uses of funds	6,133	8,887	22,883	37,587	43,296
Book value per share (INR)	60.3	88.7	132.1	180.9	240.1
Free cash flow					(INR mn)
Year to December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13E
Net profit	6,550	8,187	9,615	11,266	13,675
Add : Non cash charge	1,553	1,472	2,157	2,421	3,205
Depreciation	1,216	1,278	1,637	2,033	2,614
Others	337	194	520	388	591
Gross cash flow	8,103	9,659	11,773	13,687	16,880
Less: Changes in WC	15	(978)	(377)	(56)	(281)
Operating cash flow	8,088	10,636	12,150	13,743	17,161
Less: Capex	2,064	4,832	17,672	15,000	8,000
Free cash flow	6,024	5,804	(5,522)	(1,257)	9,161
Cash flow metrics					
Year to December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13E
Operating cash flow	9,268	10,368	11,876	13,743	17,161
Investing cash flow	(2,552)	(4,459)	(15,552)	(15,000)	(8,000)
Financing cash flow	(5,413)	(5,438)	3,232	3,049	(8,557)
Net cash flow	1,303	471	(444)	1,792	604
Capex	(2,064)	(4,832)	(17,672)	(15,000)	(8,000)
Dividends paid	(5,471)	(5,448)	(5,430)	(6,562)	(7,966)



Profitability & efficiency ratios

Year to December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13E
ROAE (%)	124.2	114.0	90.3	74.7	67.4
ROACE (%)	206.0	195.5	96.1	56.4	51.0
Inventory day	33	31	32	32	32
Debtors days	4	4	4	4	4
Payable days	49	49	54	55	55
Cash conversion cycle (days)	(12)	(14)	(18)	(18)	(19)
Current ratio	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7

Operating ratios

Year to December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13E
Total asset turnover	9.1	8.3	4.7	2.9	2.6
Fixed asset turnover	6.2	6.6	5.8	4.5	3.8
Equity turnover	9.7	8.7	7.0	5.8	5.1

Valuation parameters

Year to December	CY09	CY10	CY11	CY12E	CY13E
real to December	C109	0110	CIII	CTIZE	CTISE
Diluted EPS (INR)	67.9	84.9	99.7	116.8	141.8
Y-o-Y growth (%)	16.0	25.0	17.5	17.2	21.4
CEPS (INR)	80.5	98.2	116.7	137.9	168.9
Diluted PE (x)	68.2	54.6	46.5	39.7	32.7
Price/BV (x)	76.9	52.2	35.1	25.6	19.3
EV/Sales (x)	8.6	7.1	6.0	5.3	4.5
EV/EBITDA (x)	42.9	35.4	29.2	25.2	20.4
Dividend yield (%)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.5

Peer comparison valuation

Company	Market	Mcap	P/E ()	x)	EV/EBITE	DA(x)	ROE (%	6)
	Price (INR)	(INR bn)	FY13E	FY14E	FY13E	FY14E	FY13E	FY14E
Consumer Goods								
Asian Paints	3,641	349	31.0	26.1	19.8	16.6	37.6	37.6
Colgate	1,207	164	31.3	27.1	23.0	19.3	112.0	112.9
Dabur	123	214	28.3	23.5	19.9	16.4	40.7	38.8
Emami	489	74	24.8	20.4	20.7	16.9	40.0	43.1
GSK Consumer*	2,956	124	30.2	26.0	19.5	16.6	33.9	33.0
Godrej Consumer	695	237	34.2	28.3	24.4	20.1	26.6	26.9
Hindustan Unilever	515	1114	34.2	29.8	26.3	22.7	77.1	69.7
ITC	268	2100	28.5	24.7	19.6	17.1	36.2	37.7
Marico	200	129	31.1	25.5	20.4	16.7	29.4	28.2
Nestle*	4,635	447	39.7	32.7	25.2	20.4	74.7	67.4
United Spirits	969	127	38.7	27.9	14.7	12.5	7.2	9.3
Consumer Goods - Mean			32.0	26.5	21.2	17.8	46.8	45.9
Consumer Goods - Mean	(market cap wt	d average)	31.5	26.9	21.9	18.6	49.9	48.3
Consumer Goods - Mean	(ex-Nestle)		31.2x	25.9x	20.8x	17.5x	44.1	43.7
				* CY	' numbers	S	Source: Edelwei	ss research



STOCK RATING

Company Absolute Relative Relative Company Absolute Relative Relative Risk reco reco risk reco reco Asian Paints BUY SP HOLD SP Μ Μ Colgate Dabur BUY SO Emami BUY SP Н Μ GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare BUY SP Μ Godrej Consumer BUY SO Н Hindustan Unilever ITC BUY SO BUY SO L L Marico BUY SO Μ Nestle Ltd HOLD SP L United Spirits HOLD SU Н

ABSOLUTE RATING			
Ratings	Expected absolute returns over 12 months		
Buy	More than 15%		
Hold	Between 15% and - 5%		
Reduce	Less than -5%		

RELATIVE RETURNS RATING				
Ratings	Criteria			
Sector Outperformer (SO)	Stock return > 1.25 x Sector return			
Sector Performer (SP)	Stock return > 0.75 x Sector return			
	Stock return < 1.25 x Sector return			
Sector Underperformer (SU)	Stock return < 0.75 x Sector return			

Sector return is market cap weighted average return for the coverage universe within the sector

RELATIVE RISK RATING		
Ratings	Criteria	
Low (L)	Bottom 1/3rd percentile in the sector	
Medium (M)	Middle 1/3rd percentile in the sector	
High (H)	Top 1/3rd percentile in the sector	

Risk ratings are based on Edelweiss risk model

SECTOR RATING		
Ratings	Criteria	
Overweight (OW)	Sector return > 1.25 x Nifty return	
Equalweight (EW)	Sector return > 0.75 x Nifty return	
	Sector return < 1.25 x Nifty return	
Underweight (UW)	Sector return < 0.75 x Nifty return	







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Coverage group(s) of stocks by primary analyst(s): Consumer Goods

Asian Paints, Colgate, Dabur, Godrej Consumer, Emami, Hindustan Unilever, ITC, Marico, Nestle Ltd, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare, United Spirits

Recent Research				
Date	Company	Title	Price (INR)	Recos
30-Aug-12	Dabur	Making a mark in the work beauty list; <i>EdelFlash</i>	d 125	Buy
28-Aug-12	Consumer Goods	Rise of the minions; EdelFlash		
17-Aug-12	ITC	Women, new consumers t puff up volume; <i>EdelFlash</i>	o 258	Buy

Distribution of Ratings / Market Cap

Edelweiss Research Coverage Universe					
		Buy	Hold	Reduce	Total
Rating Distribution* * 1 stocks under rev		104	60	18	183
	> 50bn	Bet	ween 10bn a	nd 50 bn	< 10bn
Market Cap (INR)	114		58		11

Rating Interpretation Rating Expected to

Buy	appreciate more than 15% over a 12-month period
Hold	appreciate up to 15% over a 12-month period
Reduce	depreciate more than 5% over a 12-month period

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