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Balkrishna Industries (BIL)

Automobiles & Components

SELL

CMP(₹): 2,571

Fair Value(₹): 1,900

 Sector View: **Cautious**

NIFTY-50: 19,795

November 28, 2023

Mixed demand outlook; valuations remain expensive

Overall demand outlook for the OHT segment remains mixed. India business continues to outperform and Europe agri segment is expected to recover; however, demand challenges persist in the US agri segment (unfavorable terms of trade) and global OTR segment (higher interest rates). Also, the recent uptick in crude oil and international rubber prices will weigh on margin recovery. CMP implies 10% revenue CAGR (15% market share in global OHT market) at Rs132 EBITDA per kg (70% higher than 2QFY24 levels) over FY2027-35E. Retain SELL on expensive valuations.

Agriculture segment—EU demand to recover; US demand to remain muted

Demand for agricultural tires in developed markets have sharply declined over the past few quarters on account of (1) weakness in demand from EU and US regions due to adverse weather conditions resulting in lower production and (2) decline in food prices coupled with sharp increase in input cost resulting in lower farmers profitability. Recovery in agri tire demand in Europe will be driven by (1) improvement in crop production in 2HFY24E and (2) sharp decline in input costs compared to output. However, demand trend in the US is expected to remain weak owing to (1) depressed farm income levels owing to reduced government subsidies and (2) sustained higher input costs.

OTR segment—higher interest rates to weigh on recovery

Demand for OTR tires has remained soft over the past couple of quarters driven by (1) weak end-user demand in domestic market and (2) inventory correction by OEMs and channel partners. However, the outlook for OTR demand tires remains muted due to (1) higher interest rates weighing on demand outlook and (2) slowdown in ordering inflow in the mining segment. Also, Caterpillar and John Deere expect the OTR segment demand to decline in CY2024E.

RM tailwinds to partly reverse in the coming quarters

With recent uptick in crude oil and international rubber prices, we expect gross margins to come under pressure for the company. Given mixed demand outlook, we believe it will be challenging for the company to offset the inflationary pressures with price hikes. Overall, we expect profitability to sustain at current levels (uptick unlikely in the near term) as benefits from operating leverage (base effect) and better hedge rate will be offset by RM headwinds.

Fine-tune our FY2024-26 EPS estimates; maintain SELL rating

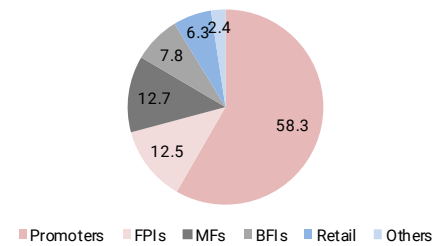
We have fine-tuned our FY2024-26 EPS estimates. India business continue to perform well and Europe agri business is expected to recover; however, muted outlook for OTR segment (high margin segment) and agri segment in the US will weigh on recovery. While we expect the company to gain market share in OHT segment over the medium term, we believe current valuations are not capturing the near-term headwinds to the business. Despite baking in recovery over the coming years, the stock is trading at 33X FY2025E consolidated EPS, which we believe is expensive. Maintain SELL with an unchanged FV of Rs1,900.

Company data and valuation summary

Stock data

CMP(Rs)/FV(Rs)/Rating	2,571/1,900/SELL
52-week range (Rs) (high-low)	2,683-1,909
Mcap (bn) (Rs/US\$)	497/6.0
ADTV-3M (mn) (Rs/US\$)	638/7.7

Shareholding pattern (%)



Price performance (%)	1M	3M	12M
Absolute	0	8	30
Rel. to Nifty	(3)	6	23
Rel. to MSCI India	(4)	4	23

Forecasts/Valuations	2024E	2025E	2026E
EPS (Rs)	67.8	78.0	88.8
EPS growth (%)	23.9	15.2	13.8
P/E (X)	37.9	32.9	28.9
P/B (X)	5.8	5.1	4.5
EV/EBITDA (X)	21.9	18.6	16.4
RoE (%)	16.3	16.6	16.6
Div. yield (%)	0.7	0.8	0.8
Sales (Rs bn)	93	102	111
EBITDA (Rs bn)	23	26	29
Net profits (Rs bn)	13	15	17

Source: Bloomberg, Company data, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Prices in this report are based on the market close of November 24, 2023

[Full sector coverage on KINSITE](#)

 Rishi Vora
 rishi.vora@kotak.com
 +91-22-4336 0874

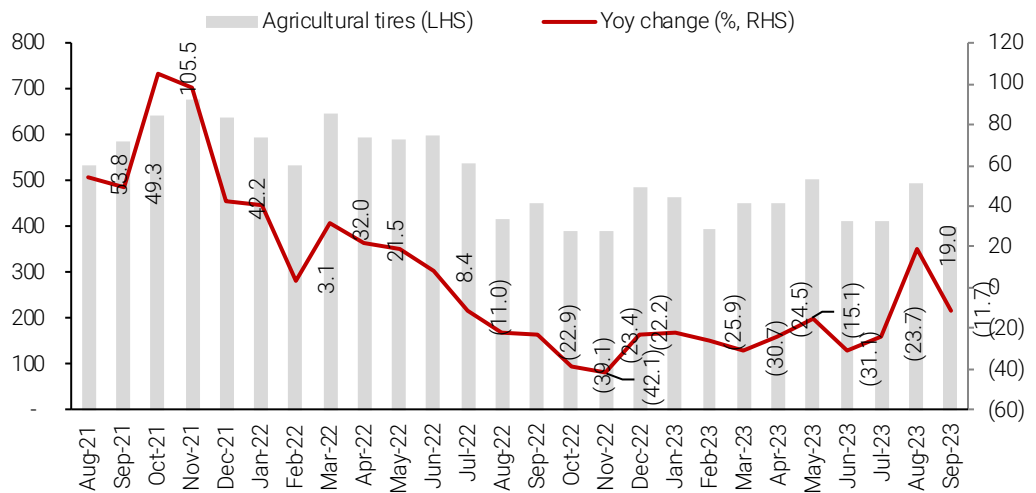
 Praveen Poreddy
 praveen.poreddy@kotak.com
 +91-22-4336 0865

Reverse DCF analysis implies Rs132 per kg of EBITDA (70% higher than 2QFY24 levels)

To justify the CMP, the company has to clock in an EBITDA of Rs132 per kg (70% higher than 2QFY24 profitability) over FY2027-35E, which we believe will be challenging for the company. We expect profitability to improve gradually over the coming years driven by (1) richer product mix (higher mix of OTR segment), (2) favorable hedge rate (EUR:INR) and (3) operating leverage benefits; however, sharp uptick in profitability (on a sustainable basis) is unlikely given (1) the commoditized nature of the industry, which tends to be cyclical and (2) increase in competitive intensity in these segments as the domestic tire companies are incrementally focusing on OHT segment due to higher profitability. In our reverse DCF analysis, we are building in volume growth CAGR of 7-8% and revenue growth CAGR of 10-11% over FY2023-35E, which will result in revenue market share of around ~15% by FY20235E in global OHT market.

Agri export volumes declined by 16% yoy in FYTD24 led by weak demand trends in Europe and NA

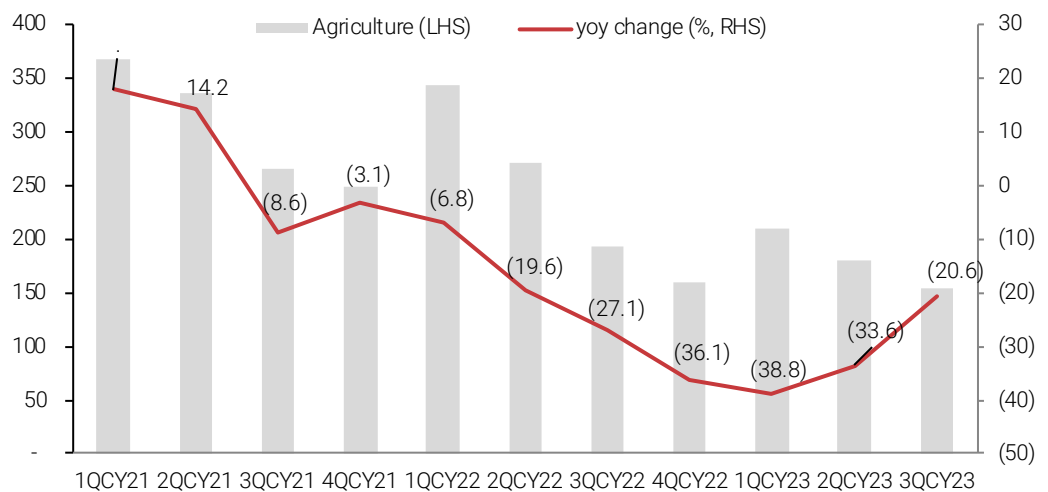
Exhibit 1: Trend in yoy growth in agri export volumes from India, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-24 (%)



Source: Ministry of Commerce, Kotak Institutional Equities

Agri replacement tire segment sales declined by >20% in the each of the past 6 months

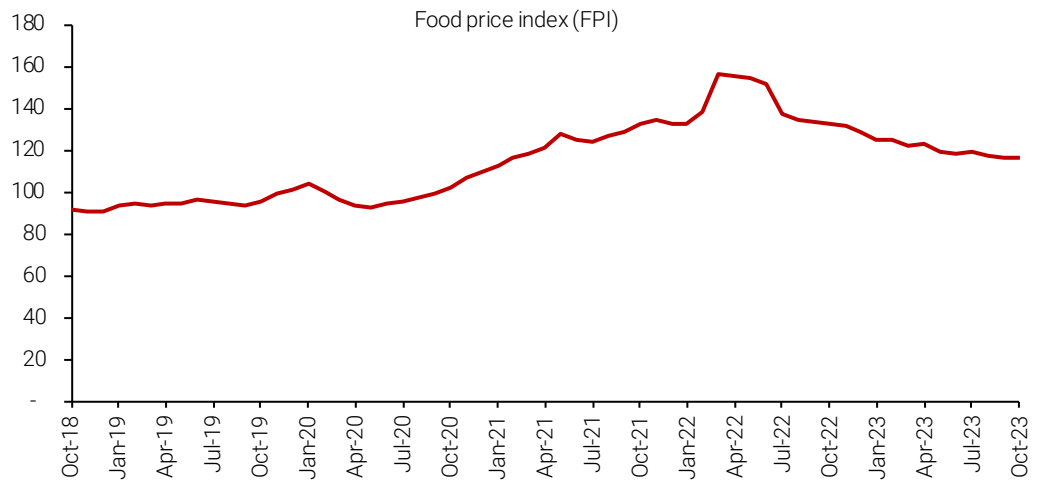
Exhibit 2: Agri replacement tire sales trend in Europe, calendar year-ends, 2021-23 ('000 units, %)



Source: ETRMA, Kotak Institutional Equities

Food price index continues to decline, impacting the farm revenues globally

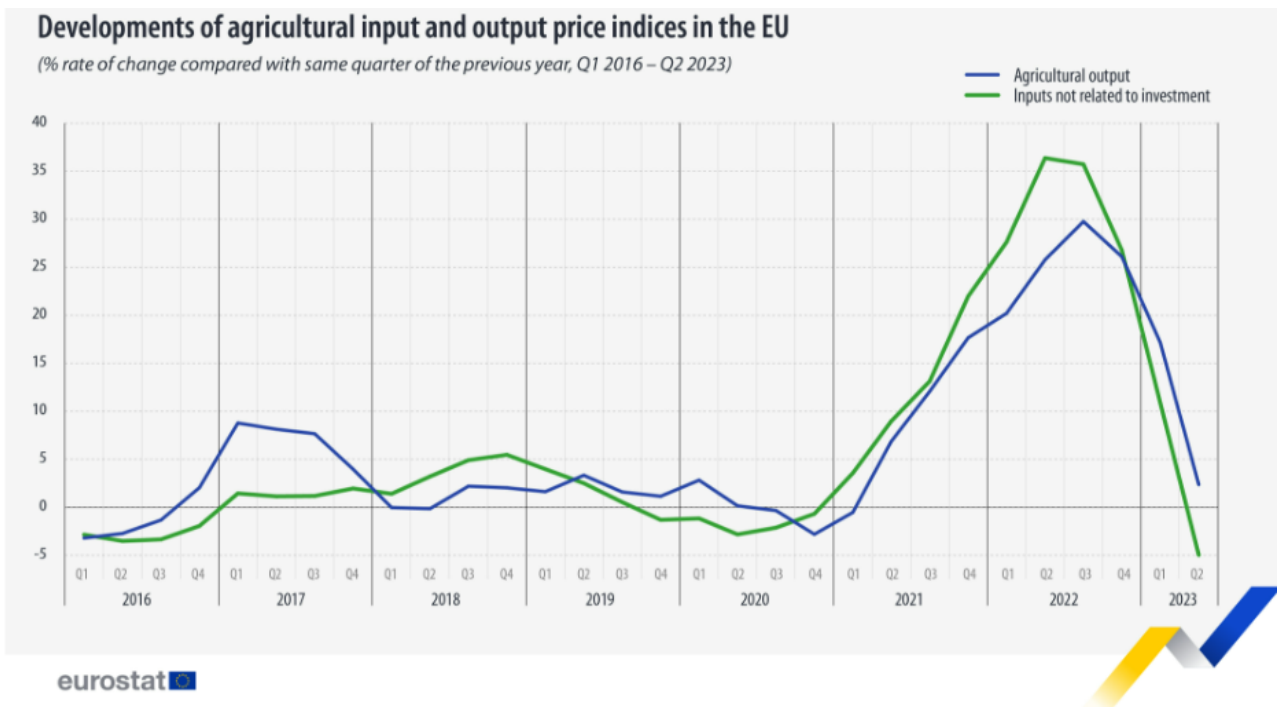
Exhibit 3: Trend of Food price index, calendar year-ends, 2018-23



Source: FAO, Kotak Institutional Equities

The input costs declined sharply compared to output prices in 2QCY23, thereby improving the profitability of farmers

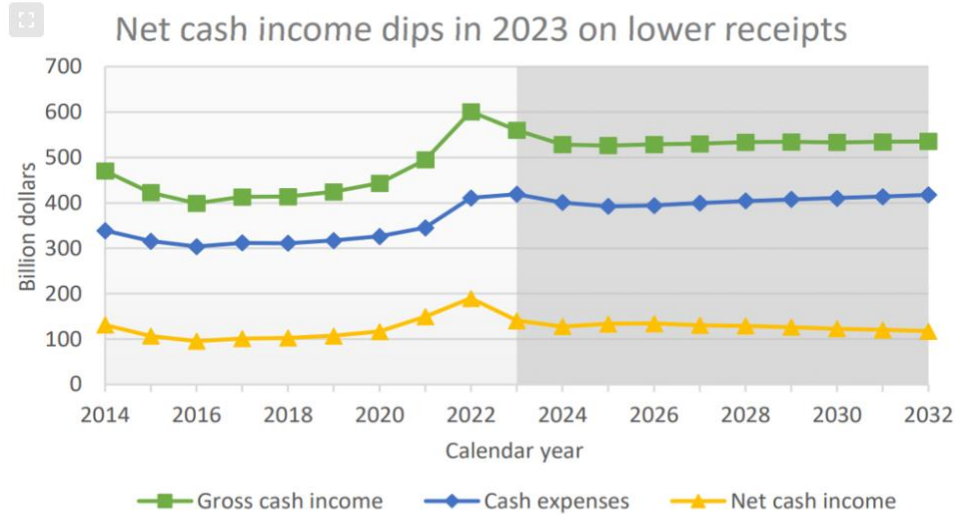
Exhibit 4: Agri output prices versus input costs movement in Europe, calendar year-ends, 2016-23



Source: EUROSTAT, Kotak Institutional Equities

The net cash farm income is expected to decline in CY2023 owing to reduction in government subsidies and higher input costs

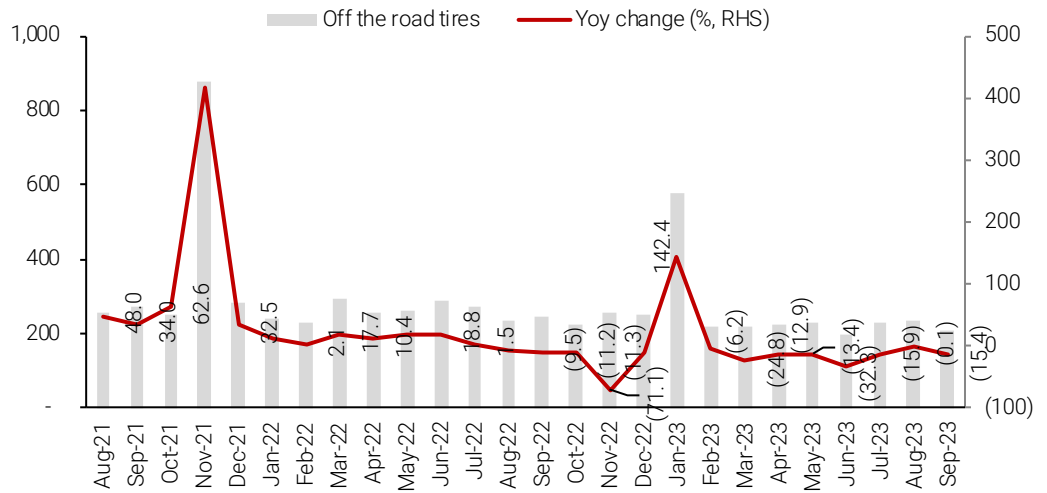
Exhibit 5: Net cash farm income trends in US, calendar year-ends, 2014-32E



Source: US Agriculture Market Outlook, Kotak Institutional Equities

OTR tires export demand remained weak in FYTD24

Exhibit 6: Yoy trend of OTR tires export volumes from India, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-24 (%)



Source: Ministry of Commerce, Kotak Institutional Equities

Overall outlook for agri demand in EU is likely to recover albeit at a slow pace whereas the US demand is likely to be muted

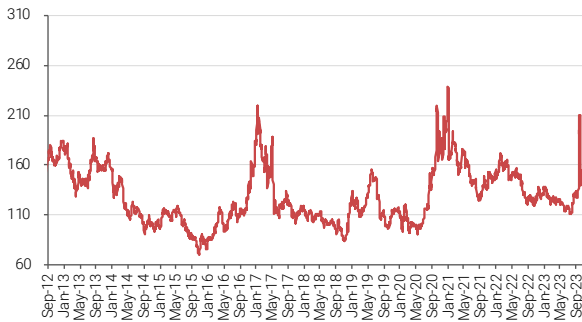
Exhibit 7: Commentary of global tire and equipment manufacturing companies

Company	Region	Comments
Michelin	EU	(1) Soft demand trends in agriculture and construction segments primarily due to high interest costs (2) Mining demand is likely to grow modestly
Titan International	USA	(1) Robust demand trends in mining and construction segments (2) Agriculture segment demand was muted owing to inflation and high interest rates
	EU	(1) Agriculture segment demand trends remain steady
Caterpillar	USA	(1) The company highlighted that customer product utilization remains high in mining industry with no of parked trucks remaining low and elevated age of the fleet. However, order inflow has slowed down due to capital discipline employed by the customers (2) The construction segment continues to see positive momentum driven by growth in non-residential construction
	EU	(1) Construction industry demand continues to be weak
John Deere	USA	(1) Agriculture segment demand likely to decline in CY2024E due to moderating farm fundamentals (2) Outlook for construction segment in CY2024E is mixed as the growth in commercial investments to be offset by decline in housing investments.
	EU	(1) Europe agri machinery industry is likely to be down by 10% yoy in CY2024E (2) Construction segment demand to decline by 10% yoy in CY2024E for the company

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

International rubber prices remain at elevated levels

Exhibit 8: Tokyo commodity exchange rubber futures, 2012-24 (Rs per kg)



Source: Bloomberg, Kotak Institutional Equities

Domestic natural rubber prices have inched up in past 2 months

Exhibit 9: Kottayam natural rubber RSS4 prices, 2012-24 (Rs per kg)



Source: Bloomberg, Kotak Institutional Equities

To justify CMP, the company has to clock in EBITDA per kg of Rs130 over FY2027-35E

Exhibit 10: Reverse DCF analysis, Balkrishna Industries, March fiscal year-ends, 2021-35E (Rs mn, %)

	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E	2029E	2030E	2035E	2023-35E	CAGR (%)
Tonnage (tons)	227,132	288,795	301,181	291,691	316,567	341,893	376,082	413,690	455,059	500,565	749,115		7.9
Realization/ton	253,826	292,495	332,741	316,878	319,676	322,862	332,547	342,524	352,800	363,384	413,121		1.8
Revenues	57,652	84,471	100,215	92,431	101,199	110,384	125,065	141,699	160,545	181,897	309,475		9.9
Yoy (%)	17.0	46.5	18.6	(7.8)	9.5	9.1	13.3	13.3	13.3	13.3			10.2
EBITDA	18,344	22,158	20,201	22,430	25,947	28,776	48,891	53,780	59,158	65,073	97,385		
EBITDA/kg	81	77	67	77	82	84	130	130	130	130	130		
EBIT/ton	62,437	60,956	48,121	53,524	58,237	60,316	106,492	106,976	107,367	107,671	110,019		7.1
EBIT	14,181	17,604	14,493	15,612	18,436	20,622	40,050	44,255	48,858	53,896	82,417		15.6
Tax expense	(3,442)	(4,856)	(3,812)	(4,044)	(4,775)	(5,341)	(10,373)	(11,462)	(12,654)	(13,959)	(21,345)		
EBIT (1-tax)	10,739	12,748	10,681	11,569	13,661	15,281	29,677	32,793	36,204	39,938	61,071		
Depreciation	(4,163)	(4,554)	(5,708)	(6,818)	(7,511)	(8,154)	(8,841)	(9,525)	(10,299)	(11,177)	(14,968)		
Change in working capital	(1,273)	(8,289)	(1,865)	2,363	(1,362)	(1,393)	(2,713)	(2,393)	(3,392)	(3,843)	(4,852)		
Capex	(9,262)	(15,953)	(17,625)	(9,000)	(6,500)	(10,000)	(8,755)	(9,919)	(11,238)	(12,733)	(18,569)		
FCFF	4,368	(6,940)	(3,101)	11,750	13,310	12,042	27,050	30,006	31,873	34,538	52,619		
Key assumptions													
WACC													11.5
Sum of discounted cash flows	198,372												
Terminal cash flow	18,570												
Terminal growth rate (%)	5.0												
Terminal value	285,688												
Enterprise value	484,061												
Net debt/(cash) as of March 2025	(8,784)												
Equity value	492,845												
Equity value per share													2,550

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

We build in 5% volume CAGR over FY2023-26E

Exhibit 11: Historical volume growth across segments and forecasts for BIL, March fiscal year-ends, 2017-26E (tons, %)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E	2017-23	2023-26E	CAGR (%)
Segment-wise volumes (tons)													
Agricultural	107,567	124,247	129,118	124,112	145,364	189,161	188,840	173,733	189,369	204,519	9.8	2.7	
OTR (Industrial, mining, construction)	58,230	67,289	74,963	70,656	72,682	89,815	103,004	108,154	116,806	126,151	10.0	7.0	
Others	6,623	7,677	7,180	6,992	9,085	9,819	9,337	9,803	10,392	11,223	5.9	6.3	
Total volumes	172,420	199,213	211,261	201,760	227,132	288,795	301,181	291,691	316,567	341,893	9.7	4.3	
Channel-wise volumes (tons)													
OEM	40,516	51,055	56,779	51,449	59,054	79,996	84,029	81,509	88,029	95,072	12.9	4.2	
Replacement	127,172	142,325	150,321	144,258	158,992	199,269	209,321	205,134	221,545	239,269	8.7	4.6	
Off-take (contract manufacturing)	4,732	5,833	4,161	6,053	9,085	9,530	7,831	5,048	6,993	7,552	8.8	(1.2)	
Total volumes	172,420	199,213	211,261	201,760	227,132	288,795	301,181	291,691	316,567	341,893	9.7	4.3	
Region-wise volumes (tons)													
Europe	93,456	107,299	106,494	102,898	113,566	155,661	152,096	136,887	147,838	159,665	8.5	1.6	
America	26,404	29,840	35,369	34,299	34,070	50,828	53,911	49,598	53,566	57,852	12.6	2.4	
Rest of World	25,667	29,235	30,914	24,211	27,256	32,345	30,118	29,516	31,877	34,427	2.7	4.6	
India	26,893	32,839	38,484	40,352	52,240	49,962	65,055	75,690	83,286	89,949	15.9	11.4	
Total volumes	172,420	199,213	211,261	201,760	227,132	288,795	301,181	291,691	316,567	341,893	9.7	4.3	
Segmental volume mix (%)													
Agricultural	62.4	62.4	61.1	61.5	64.0	65.5	62.7	59.6	59.8	59.8			
OTR	33.8	33.8	35.5	35.0	32.0	31.1	34.2	37.1	36.9	36.9			
Others	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.5	4.0	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.3			
Total volumes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0			
Channel-wise mix (%)													
OEM	23.5	25.6	26.9	25.5	26.0	27.7	27.9	27.9	27.8	27.8			
Replacement	73.8	71.4	71.2	71.5	70.0	69.0	69.5	70.3	70.0	70.0			
Off-take (contract manufacturing)	2.7	2.9	2.0	3.0	4.0	3.3	2.6	1.7	2.2	2.2			
Total volumes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0			
Region-wise mix (%)													
Europe	54.2	53.9	50.4	51.0	50.0	53.9	50.5	46.9	46.7	46.7			
America	15.3	15.0	16.7	17.0	15.0	17.6	17.9	17.0	16.9	16.9			
Rest of World	14.9	14.7	14.6	12.0	12.0	11.2	10.0	10.1	10.1	10.1			
India	15.6	16.5	18.2	20.0	23.0	17.3	21.6	25.9	26.3	26.3			
Total volumes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0			

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

We expect EBITDA margin to improve to ~25-26% over FY2025-26E

Exhibit 12: Assumptions for BKT consolidated financials, March fiscal year-ends, 2017-26E (Rs mn)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Volumes (MT)	172,420	199,213	211,261	201,760	227,132	288,795	301,181	291,691	316,567	341,893
Sales from core operations (Rs mn)	37,969	46,683	53,355	48,975	56,199	81,787	96,225	86,618	95,096	103,976
EBITDA from core operations (Rs mn)	12,158	13,517	14,291	13,814	17,975	21,607	19,459	20,462	23,923	26,697
RMs from core operations (Rs mn)	15,814	21,499	24,628	21,268	21,948	35,604	45,885	40,536	44,197	48,515
Net sales per kg from core operations (Rs)	220.2	234.3	252.6	242.7	247.4	283.2	319.5	297.0	300.4	304.1
RM per kg from core operations (Rs)	91.7	107.9	116.6	105.4	96.6	123.3	152.4	139.0	139.6	141.9
EBITDA per kg from core operations (Rs)	70.5	67.9	67.6	68.5	79.1	74.8	64.6	70.2	75.6	78.1
EBITDA margin from core operations (%)	32.0	29.0	26.8	28.2	32.0	26.4	20.2	23.6	25.2	25.7

Notes:

(a) Core operations excludes sales of carbon black

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

We expect BKT to deliver 18% EPS CAGR over FY2023-26E partly on account of lower base

Exhibit 13: P&L, cash flow statement and balance sheet for BKT consolidated, March fiscal year-ends, 2017-26E (Rs mn, %)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Profit model (Rs mn)										
Sales	37,923	46,648	53,010	49,262	57,652	84,471	100,215	92,431	101,199	110,384
EBITDA	12,150	13,466	14,201	14,033	18,344	22,158	20,201	22,430	25,947	28,776
Other income	1,696	948	1,002	1,188	1,482	2,309	335	3,202	2,711	3,069
Interest	(220)	(139)	(111)	(89)	(114)	(92)	(480)	(924)	(774)	(524)
Depreciation	(3,040)	(3,114)	(3,326)	(3,736)	(4,163)	(4,554)	(5,708)	(6,818)	(7,511)	(8,154)
Profit before tax	10,586	11,160	11,766	11,395	15,549	19,822	14,348	17,891	20,373	23,167
Tax expense	(3,418)	(3,803)	(4,029)	(1,799)	(3,774)	(5,468)	(3,774)	(4,634)	(5,245)	(5,966)
PAT	7,169	7,358	7,737	9,597	11,775	14,354	10,574	13,257	15,128	17,201
Adjusted PAT	6,897	7,229	7,667	9,597	11,775	14,354	10,574	13,257	15,128	17,201
Adjusted EPS	35.7	37.4	39.7	49.6	60.9	74.3	54.7	68.6	78.3	89.0
Balance sheet (Rs mn)										
Equity	35,429	40,834	46,537	50,083	59,998	69,330	75,569	85,424	96,810	109,895
Deferred tax liability	3,529	3,289	3,255	1,783	2,035	2,509	2,419	2,419	2,419	2,419
Total borrowings	13,909	8,675	8,711	9,310	10,004	25,285	33,418	30,418	25,418	20,418
Current liabilities and provisions	5,025	5,985	6,287	6,888	9,628	12,665	12,024	12,226	13,299	14,456
Total liabilities	57,891	58,782	64,790	68,064	81,665	109,789	123,429	130,486	137,945	147,187
Net fixed assets	29,584	29,678	33,866	38,931	42,257	52,778	67,757	69,939	68,928	70,774
Investments	13,492	11,027	10,826	10,625	14,177	18,967	20,367	25,367	30,367	35,367
Cash & cash equivalents	248	334	656	691	780	517	763	2,799	3,834	3,680
Other current assets	14,567	17,743	19,442	17,816	24,452	37,528	34,542	32,381	34,815	37,366
Total assets	57,891	58,783	64,790	68,064	81,665	109,789	123,429	130,486	137,945	147,187
Free cash flow (Rs mn)										
Operating cash flow excl. working capital	9,351	9,561	10,138	11,188	14,663	17,369	16,345	16,873	19,928	22,286
Working capital changes	(1,111)	(2,154)	(1,934)	544	(1,273)	(8,289)	(1,865)	2,363	(1,362)	(1,393)
Net financial income	1,476	809	890	1,099	1,368	2,218	(145)	2,278	1,937	2,545
Cash flow from operations	9,716	8,216	9,095	12,830	14,758	11,298	14,335	21,514	20,503	23,439
Capital expenditure	(1,849)	(4,203)	(7,397)	(7,841)	(9,262)	(15,953)	(17,625)	(9,000)	(6,500)	(10,000)
Free cash flow	7,867	4,013	1,697	4,989	5,496	(4,655)	(3,290)	12,514	14,003	13,439
Ratios										
Gross margin	58.3	54.1	53.9	56.6	59.9	55.3	51.0	52.0	52.3	52.1
EBITDA margin (%)	32.0	28.9	26.8	28.5	31.8	26.2	20.2	24.3	25.6	26.1
PAT margin (%)	18.2	15.5	14.5	19.5	20.4	17.0	10.6	14.3	14.9	15.6
Net debt/equity (X)	0.0	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.0)	(0.1)	0.1	0.2	0.0	(0.1)	(0.2)
Book value (Rs/share)	183.3	211.2	240.7	259.1	310.4	358.7	390.9	441.9	500.8	568.5
RoAE (%)	21.8	19.0	17.5	19.9	21.4	22.2	14.6	16.5	16.6	16.6
RoACE (%)	17.4	18.5	17.5	18.9	20.8	19.6	13.1	13.2	15.6	17.1

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Narayana Hrudayalaya (NARH)

Health Care Services

REDUCE

CMP(₹): 1,238

Fair Value(₹): 1,170

Sector View: **Cautious**

NIFTY-50: 19,795

November 28, 2023

Cracking the Cayman code

A remarkable turnaround in Cayman has been one of the key factors driving NARH's robust 36% 5-year consolidated EBITDA CAGR in 1HFY24. Based on the 1HFY24 run-rate, NARH's annualized Cayman EBITDA has surged ~5X in the past five years. We believe the mix in Cayman could have been better—IP discharges have been flat over this period with the recovery being primarily driven by a towering 16% CAGR in realization per patient. Furthermore, at 25X FY2025E pre-Ind AS-116 EV/EBITDA, NARH's domestic valuations encapsulate its subpar margins and future dilution in RoCEs due to the ongoing elevated capex phase. Retain REDUCE with FV of Rs1,170.

With ~40% EBITDA contribution in 1H, Cayman's relevance continues to grow

Post commencing operations in CY2014, the Cayman facility underperformed for the initial 4-5 years. Contrary to its original plan of attracting medical tourists, a huge majority of the current patient volumes are locals from Cayman. Pre-Covid, NARH's Cayman operations were contributing ~23% to its overall EBITDA. With greater acceptance from locals post Covid coupled with a better case mix, Cayman contributed ~40% to NARH's consolidated EBITDA in 1HFY24. With a 16% 5-year CAGR in realization per patient amid flat IP discharges, we highlight the turnaround has been largely led by realizations.

Despite radiation being margin accretive, the new facility will lead to dilution

We estimate NARH is clocking ~Rs200 mn quarterly sales, with 75+% EBITDA margins, in the recently commissioned radiation oncology block in Cayman. Apart from higher occupancy in the existing Health City hospital, we expect Cayman's margins to stay elevated for the next 2-3 quarters due to traction in the radiation block. Once the Camana Bay hospital commences operations in 1QFY25 with ~50 beds, we expect Cayman's margins to decline 300 bps yoy to 40.5% in FY2025E. Baking in a gradual ramp-up of this facility, we expect Cayman to report sales/EBITDA CAGRs of 17/18%, over FY2023-26E.

Higher cash generation in Cayman comes with a rider

One of the challenges in utilizing the Cayman proceeds is that NARH is liable to pay ~25% tax if it utilizes the Cayman cash for expenditure incurred in India. If NARH chooses to dividend out the Cayman proceeds, the tax incidence is nil. Given management's focus on growth as well as limited track-record of payout since inception, we expect NARH to utilize the Cayman proceeds in being more aggressive in scouting for expansion opportunities in the Caribbean Islands and eventually the US. Even as its Cayman business has clicked, albeit after the initial drag, we remain a bit concerned of any major overseas expansion.

Fairly priced; retain REDUCE with FV of Rs1,170

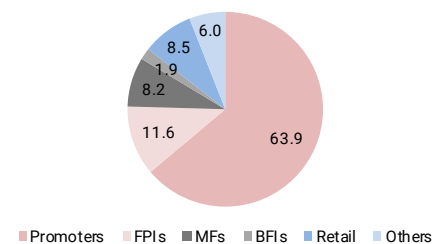
Aided by higher occupancies, ramp-up of new hospitals and better mix, we bake in 15%/18% India sales/EBITDA CAGRs over FY2023-26E. We raise FY2024-26E EBITDA by 2-4%, due to higher margins across India and Cayman. Given the elevated capex intensity (cumulative capex of Rs27.4 bn over FY2024-26E), compared to its average annual capex of Rs2.7 bn over FY2018-20, we stay wary of further RoCE dilution. REDUCE with FV of Rs1,170 (Rs1,115 earlier).

Company data and valuation summary

Stock data

CMP(Rs)/FV(Rs)/Rating	1,238/1,170/REDUCE
52-week range (Rs) (high-low)	1,314-705
Mcap (bn) (Rs/US\$)	253/3.0
ADTV-3M (mn) (Rs/US\$)	414/5.0

Shareholding pattern (%)



Price performance (%)

	1M	3M	12M
Absolute	22	22	62
Rel. to Nifty	19	20	55
Rel. to MSCI India	18	18	55

Forecasts/Valuations

	2024E	2025E	2026E
EPS (Rs)	38.8	41.9	49.5
EPS growth (%)	30.8	7.9	18.2
P/E (X)	31.9	29.6	25.0
P/B (X)	8.7	6.7	5.3
EV/EBITDA (X)	21.5	18.5	15.4
RoE (%)	31.4	25.5	23.6
Div. yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sales (Rs bn)	52	61	69
EBITDA (Rs bn)	12	14	16
Net profits (Rs bn)	8	9	10

Source: Bloomberg, Company data, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Prices in this report are based on the market close of November 24, 2023

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Alankar Garude, CFA
alankar.garude@kotak.com
+91-22-4336-0871

Samitinjoy Basak
samitinjoy.basak@kotak.com
+91-22-4336-0872

Aniket Singh
aniket.singh2@kotak.com
+91-22-4336-0856

Post a decadal journey of ups and downs, Cayman is now a vital cog in NARH’s wheels

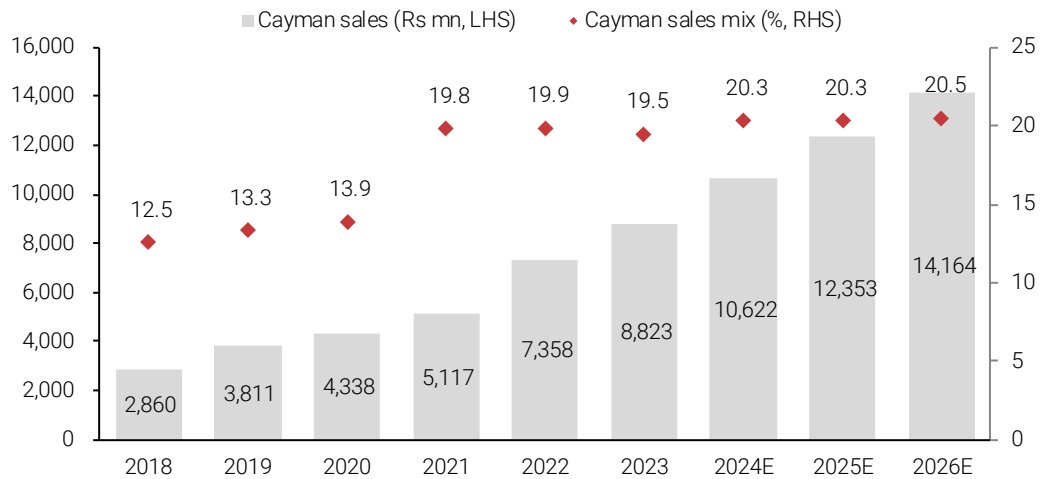
In April 2010, NARH entered into an agreement with the Government of Cayman Islands to set up an integrated hospital and medical university in phases in the Cayman Islands. In CY2011, NARH invested ~US\$22 mn for a 104-bed Cayman Island facility, thereby acquiring ~28.6% stake in the facility. NARH was provided an option to acquire the remaining stake in the hospital at the same valuation. In November 2017, NARH announced the acquisition of the remaining 71.4% stake in the hospital and it became a fully owned subsidiary of the company effective January 2018. In order to finance this acquisition, it had borrowed the entire amount, with US\$25 mn borrowings secured by the Indian entity.

Cayman’s relative importance in NARH’s overall mix has increased meaningfully

We highlight sales and EBITDA contribution of Cayman to NARH’s overall mix has increased by ~700 bps and ~1,400 bps respectively over FY2019-23. Pre-Covid, NARH’s Cayman operations were contributing ~23% to NARH’s overall EBITDA. With greater acceptance from the local population post Covid coupled with a better case mix, Cayman’s contribution to NARH’s consolidated EBITDA has increased significantly and stood at ~40% in 1HFY24.

Post FY2020, Cayman’s contribution to NARH’s overall sales has increased to ~20%

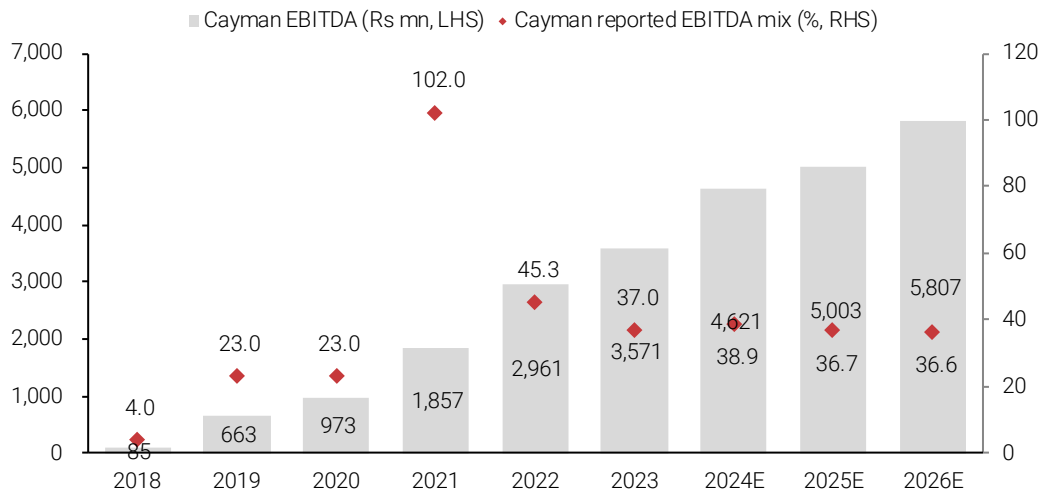
Exhibit 1: NARH – sales contribution, March fiscal year-ends, 2018-26E (Rs mn, %)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

We expect Cayman to constitute 37-39% of NARH's EBITDA over FY2024-26E

Exhibit 2: NARH – reported EBITDA contribution, March fiscal year-ends, 2018-26E (Rs mn, %)



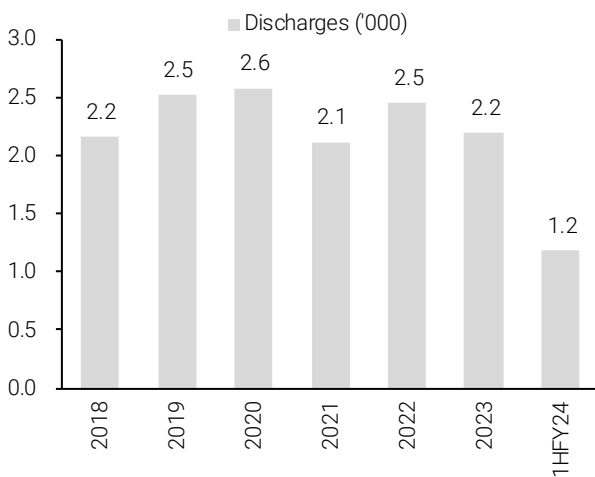
Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Contrary to NARH's original plan, majority of the footfalls in Cayman remain local

Having commenced operations in CY2014, NARH's Cayman facility underperformed for the initial 4-5 years. At the time of its inception, NARH intended the Cayman unit to primarily focus on attracting patients from the US, Canada and Latin America. However, attracting overseas patients proved to be a challenge for NARH. Currently, a huge majority of the patient volumes are locals from Cayman, with some from other Caribbean islands and very few patients flying in from the US. As a result, given the small population of Cayman (~70,000), medium to long term growth is likely to be constrained.

NARH – Cayman IP discharges

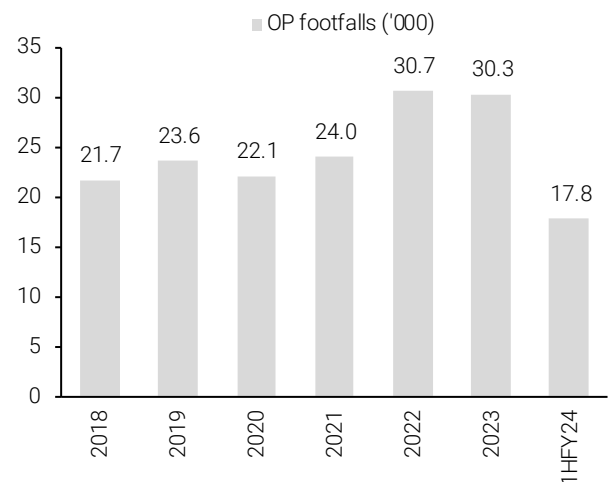
Exhibit 3: March fiscal year-ends, 2018-24E ('000)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities

NARH – Cayman OP footfalls

Exhibit 4: March fiscal year-ends, 2018-24E ('000)



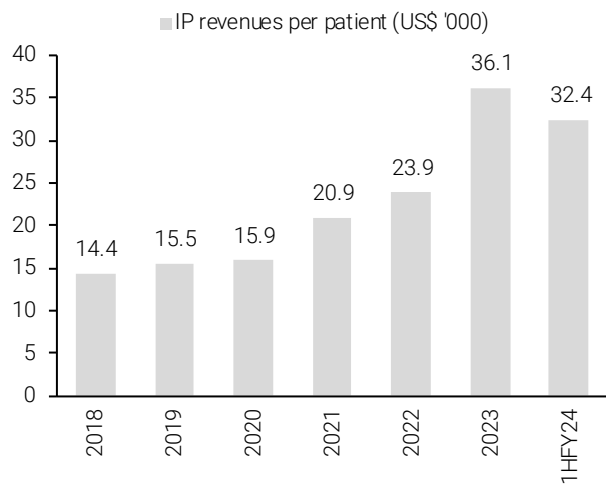
Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities

Not exactly an IP volume-led turnaround in Cayman

Competitive intensity in Cayman remains benign with there being a very large tertiary care government hospital and another private hospital, in addition to NARH’s Health City facility. In FY2021, Aster DM had signed an agreement with the government of Cayman Islands to invest up to US\$100 mn in the region, and set up a tertiary and quaternary care hospital. However, pending clarity on Aster DM’s GCC restructuring, there has been no progress on that front. As a result, NARH’s Health City facility, remains the dominant hospital in the country. ARPOBs in this region are much higher compared to NARH’s India business due to (1) higher cost of treatment in the region and (2) higher contribution from high-end elective procedures, such as bone marrow transplants, organ transplants, etc. While the turnaround of Cayman has been very impressive, we believe the mix could have been better. For instance, IP discharges have been flat over the past five years and OP footfalls have reported an 8.6% 5-year CAGR, with the recovery being primarily driven by a towering 16% 5-year CAGR in realization per patient. In our view, a large chunk of the improvement in realizations is due to an improved case mix and higher OPD penetration. However, we do not have clarity on the exact quantum of benefit from price hikes in Cayman.

NARH – Cayman IP revenues per patient

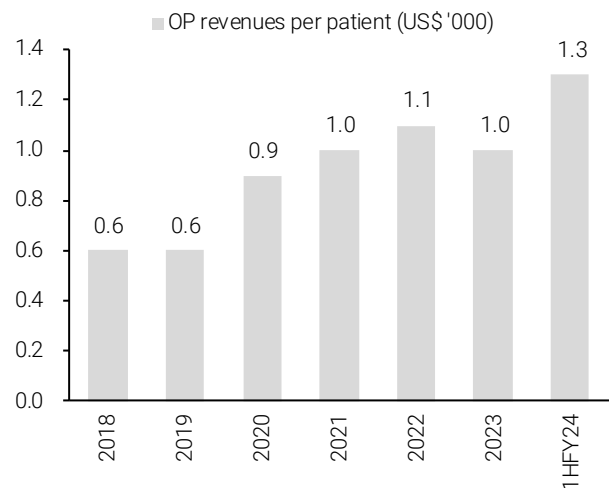
Exhibit 5: March fiscal year-ends, 2018-24E (US\$ '000)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities

NARH – Cayman OP revenues per patient

Exhibit 6: March fiscal year-ends, 2018-24E (US\$ '000)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities

We build in 300 bps margin contraction in Cayman due to the upcoming second hospital

While NARH had a medical oncology practice in Cayman, it didn’t commence oncology surgeries or radiation oncology. Hence, in FY2020, it decided to invest further in Cayman to set up a radiation oncology block, which commenced operations in 1QFY24. In addition, NARH remains on track to commission the new ~50 bed hospital at Camana Bay in Cayman in 1QFY25. While there will be fixed costs associated with this hospital, due to NARH’s existing brand equity in Cayman, NARH expects the breakeven to be much faster than the ~4 years taken by the existing Health City hospital. At the Camana Bay hospital, there will be lot of services which NARH is already offering at its Health City hospital and hence will be utilizing the services of its existing doctors. Nevertheless, there will still be additional doctors required to handle the increased volumes. In addition, there will be services such as robotic surgeries, oncology surgeries and chemotherapy, which are not available in any other facility at Caribbean Islands. Also, NARH will need to hire more nurses.

Currently, apart from traction in the Health City hospital, EBITDA margins in Cayman continue to be driven by traction in the highly profitable radiology block. We estimate NARH is clocking ~Rs200 mn quarterly sales, with 75+% EBITDA margins, in the recently commissioned radiation oncology block. Apart from higher occupancy in the existing Health City hospital, we expect overall margins in Cayman to remain elevated for the next 2-3 quarters due to the radiation block. Once the Camana Bay hospital commences operations in 1QFY25 with ~50 beds, we expect Cayman’s margins to decline 300 bps yoy to 40.5% in FY2025E. Baking in a gradual ramp-up of this facility, we expect Cayman to report sales/EBITDA CAGRs of 17/18%, over FY2023-26E.

Cayman’s EBITDA margins have increased from 22% in FY2020 to 40+% since FY2022

Exhibit 7: NARH – EBITDA split, March fiscal year-ends, 2018-26E (Rs mn)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Revenues (Rs mn)									
India sales (Rs mn)	19,949	24,798	26,940	20,706	29,655	36,424	41,681	48,410	54,882
Cayman sales (Rs mn)	2,860	3,811	4,338	5,117	7,358	8,823	10,622	12,353	14,164
Consolidated sales	22,809	28,609	31,278	25,823	37,013	45,248	52,303	60,762	69,046
EBITDA (Rs mn)									
India (pre-IndAS) EBITDA (Rs mn)	2,038	2,215	2,865	(447)	3,026	5,515	6,661	8,026	9,433
India (reported) EBITDA (Rs mn)	2,038	2,215	3,256	(36)	3,574	6,087	7,250	8,632	10,058
Cayman EBITDA (Rs mn)	85	663	973	1,857	2,961	3,571	4,621	5,003	5,807
Consolidated EBITDA (pre-IndAS)	2,123	2,878	3,838	1,410	5,987	9,086	11,282	13,028	15,240
Consolidated EBITDA (reported)	2,123	2,878	4,229	1,821	6,535	9,658	11,871	13,635	15,865
Margin (%)									
India (pre-IndAS)	10.2	8.9	10.6	(2.2)	10.2	15.1	16.0	16.6	17.2
India (reported)	10.2	8.9	12.1	(0.2)	12.1	16.7	17.4	17.8	18.3
Cayman	3.0	17.4	22.4	36.3	40.2	40.5	43.5	40.5	41.0
Consolidated EBITDA (pre-IndAS)	9.3	10.1	12.3	5.5	16.2	20.1	21.6	21.4	22.1
Consolidated EBITDA (reported)	9.3	10.1	13.5	7.1	17.7	21.3	22.7	22.4	23.0

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

NARH is likely to utilize the Cayman proceeds for overseas expansion

Cayman remains a business with nil tax rate. One of the challenges is that NARH is liable to pay ~25% tax if it utilizes the Cayman proceeds for expenditure incurred in India. If NARH chooses to dividend out the Cayman proceeds, the tax incidence is nil. Given management’s focus on growth as well as limited track-record of payout since inception, we expect NARH to utilize the Cayman proceeds in being more aggressive in scouting for expansion opportunities in the Caribbean Islands and eventually the US. Owing to its existing presence in Cayman, NARH has also received a lot of interest from the other Caribbean islands as well as the US for O&M arrangements. To address this demand, NARH had set up a subsidiary in the US in FY2019. Through this subsidiary, NARH would act as a consulting arm to several smaller US hospitals (especially in the Mid-West) to improve their efficiencies by offering its software and tools for business intelligence. These contracts ranged in the low-to-mid hundred thousand dollars, in terms of revenue accretion. While NARH remains keen on pursuing growing opportunities, which would complement its presence in Cayman, NARH does not intend to pursue any large-scale overseas inorganic opportunities. In our view, while its Cayman operations have clicked, albeit after the initial drag, we remain a bit wary of any major overseas expansion.

We estimate NARH’s Cayman RoCE stood at a robust ~29% in FY2023

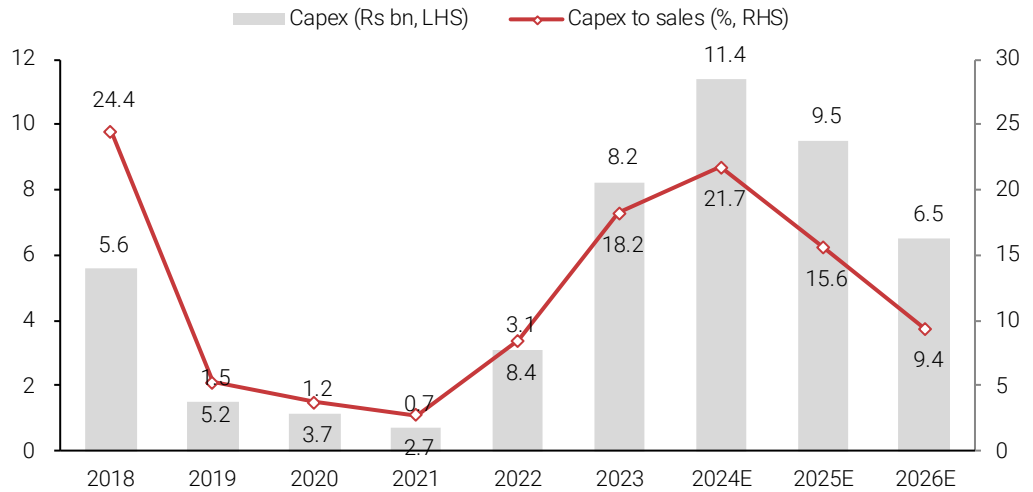
Exhibit 8: NARH – RoCE split, March fiscal year-end, 2023 (Rs mn, %)

	FY2023
Reported EBITDA (Rs mn)	
Overall reported EBITDA	9,658
India reported EBITDA	6,087
India EBITDA contribution (%)	63.0
Capital employed (Rs mn)	
Average capital employed (long-term loans + short-term loans + lease liabilities + equity)	26,139
India capital employed (assuming 65% of overall capital employed)	16,991
Cayman capital employed	9,149
EBIT (Rs mn)	
Overall EBIT	7,558
India EBIT (assuming 65% of overall EBIT)	4,913
Cayman EBIT	2,645
Tax expenses	1,450
Post-tax India EBIT (assuming nil tax in Cayman)	3,462
RoCE (%)	
India RoCE (%)	20.4
Cayman RoCE (%)	28.9

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Compared to FY2019-22 levels, NARH’s capex intensity remains significantly elevated

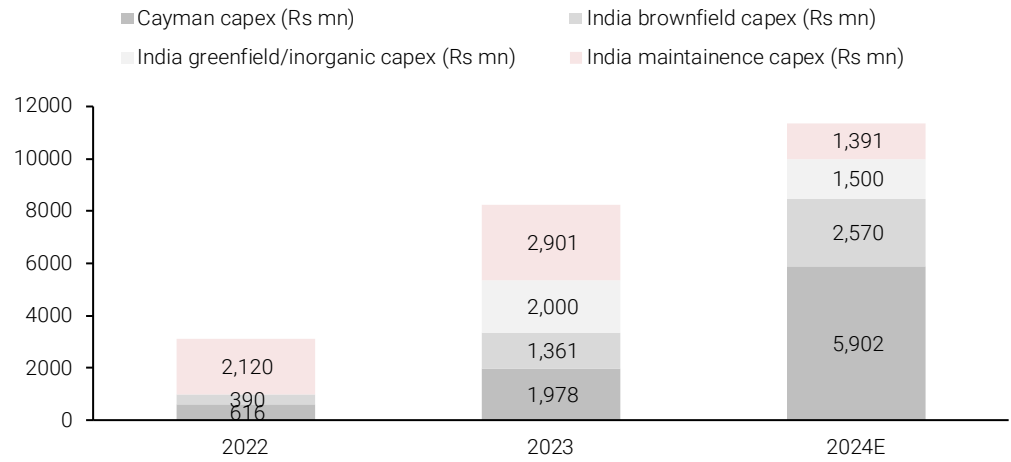
Exhibit 9: NARH – capex details, March fiscal year-ends, 2018-26E (Rs bn, %)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

NARH plans to invest Rs11.4 bn in capex in FY2024E (Rs3.94 bn spent in 1HFY24)

Exhibit 10: NARH – capex plan, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-24E (Rs mn)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

NARH's India business lags its peers in terms of most key metrics

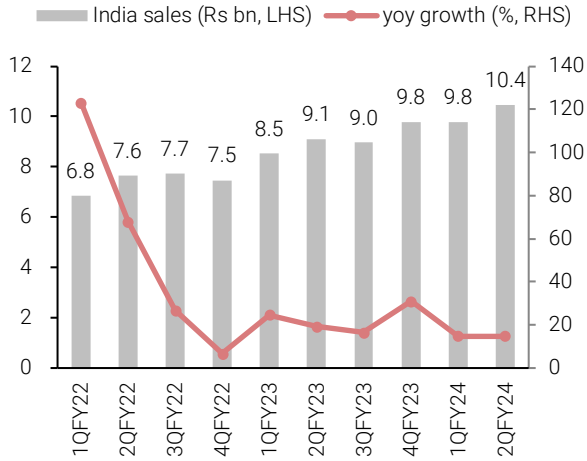
Exhibit 11: Comparison of listed hospitals, March fiscal year-ends, 2020-23 (Rs mn, %)

	2020	2021	2022	2023
EBITDA margin (%)				
Rainbow	27.4	25.0	31.3	33.8
Max	17.6	17.1	26.8	28.3
KIMS	21.8	27.9	31.2	27.5
Yatharth		29.3	27.6	25.7
Apollo (hospitals)	15.3	10.7	22.6	24.6
Medanta	13.2	13.5	20.6	22.8
Jupiter	17.8	13.8	20.9	22.6
Fortis (hospitals)	11.3	8.4	15.8	18.1
Aster (India)	11.2	10.9	17.4	18.0
Narayana (India)	17.9	6.1	12.1	16.7
RoCE (%)				
Yatharth		18.3	25.2	27.5
Rainbow	17.0	13.3	28.8	27.1
Narayana	9.0	(0.0)	18.5	23.3
KIMS	17.0	22.1	24.7	19.1
Max	6.8	25.8	13.0	16.6
Apollo	9.5	5.0	14.4	13.0
Medanta	2.5	3.3	10.1	11.9
Jupiter	9.7	4.0	10.3	10.9
Aster	10.6	6.7	13.9	10.8
Fortis	4.5	2.2	10.5	9.8
ARPOB (Rs '000/day)				
Max	45	45	56	60
Medanta	45	48	55	59
Fortis	44	43	49	55
Apollo	37	40	49	51
Jupiter	42	44	49	51
Rainbow	29	41	46	49
Aster (India)	29	30	33	35
Narayana (India)	27	28	32	34
KIMS	18	21	25	30
Yatharth		21	24	27
Revenue/occupied bed (Rs mn)				
Max	16.5	16.6	20.3	22.1
Medanta	16.5	17.6	19.9	21.6
Rainbow	12.8	16.8	18.9	17.9
Jupiter	15.6	16.1	17.9	17.8
Apollo	12.8	14.1	16.1	17.2
Fortis	16.9	14.9	17.1	16.9
Narayana (India)	9.2	10.0	11.8	13.0
Aster (India)	10.5	11.0	12.2	12.9
KIMS	6.6	7.7	9.1	10.8
Yatharth		7.8	8.6	9.7
EBITDA/occupied bed (Rs mn)				
Max	2.9	2.8	5.4	6.2
Rainbow	3.5	4.2	5.9	6.0
Medanta	2.2	2.4	4.1	4.9
Apollo	2.0	1.5	3.6	4.2
Jupiter	2.9	2.4	3.9	4.0
Fortis	1.9	1.3	2.7	3.1
KIMS	1.4	2.2	2.8	3.0
Yatharth		2.3	2.4	2.5
Aster (India)	1.2	1.2	2.1	2.3
Narayana (India)	1.7	0.6	1.4	2.2

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

NARH – quarterly India sales

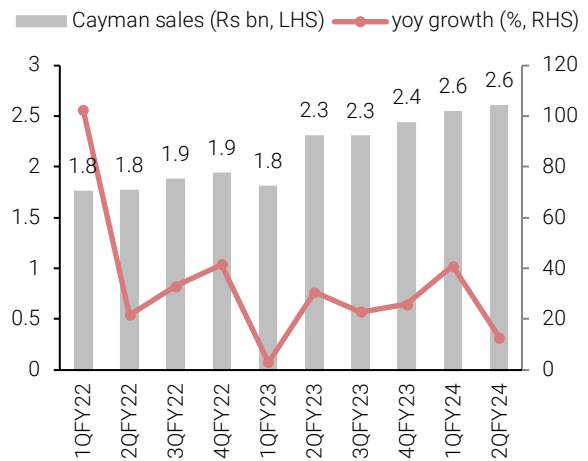
Exhibit 12: March fiscal year-ends, 2022-24E (Rs bn, %)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities

NARH – quarterly Cayman sales

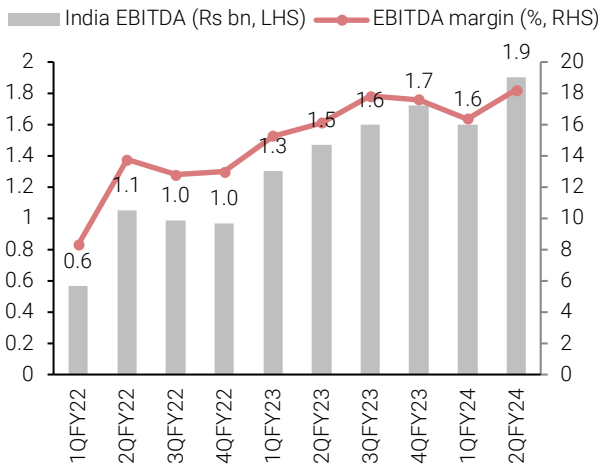
Exhibit 13: March fiscal year-ends, 2022-24E (Rs bn, %)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities

NARH – quarterly India EBITDA

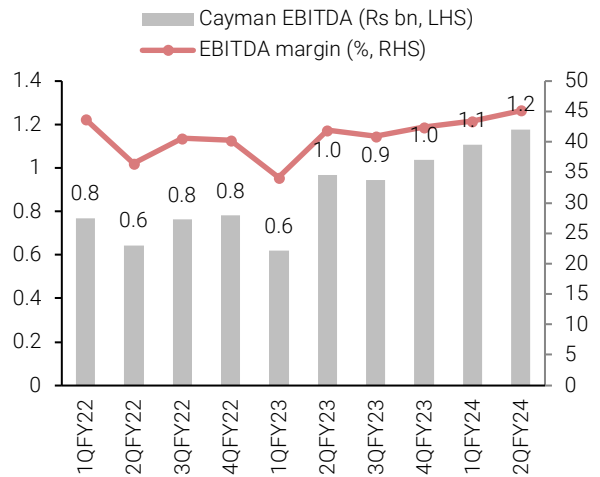
Exhibit 14: March fiscal year-ends, 2022-24E (Rs bn, %)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities

NARH – quarterly Cayman EBITDA

Exhibit 15: March fiscal year-ends, 2022-24E (Rs bn, %)



Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities

We raise NARH's FY2024-26E EBITDA by 1-4% on higher margins across India and Cayman

Exhibit 16: NARH – earnings revision table, March fiscal year-ends, 2024-26E (Rs mn, %)

	New estimates			Old estimates			Change (%)		
	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E
Revenues	52,303	60,762	69,046	52,303	60,762	69,046	-	-	-
Gross profits	40,954	47,212	53,925	40,954	47,212	53,925	-	-	-
Gross margin (%)	78.3	77.7	78.1	78.3	77.7	78.1	0 bps	0 bps	0 bps
EBITDA	11,871	13,635	15,865	11,699	13,087	15,245	1.5	4.2	4.1
EBITDA margin (%)	22.7	22.4	23.0	22.4	21.5	22.1	33 bps	90 bps	90 bps
EBITDA pre-IndAS	11,282	13,028	15,240	11,110	12,481	14,620	1.5	4.4	4.2
EBITDA pre-IndAS margin (%)	21.6	21.4	22.1	21.2	20.5	21.2	33 bps	90 bps	90 bps
PAT	7,927	8,556	10,112	7,774	8,085	9,584	2.0	5.8	5.5
EPS	38.8	41.9	49.5	38.0	39.6	46.9	2.1	5.7	5.5

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

We expect NARH to deliver 15% revenue CAGR over FY2023-26E

Exhibit 17: NARH – cluster-wise revenue split, March fiscal year-ends, 2017-26E (Rs mn)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E	2026E
Operational beds										
Bangalore	2,049	2,107	1,646	1,591	1,588	1,479	1,545	1,625	1,825	1,895
Southern Peripheral			514	513	529	528	528	528	528	528
Kolkata	1,548	1,666	1,337	1,334	1,376	1,374	1,374	1,350	1,650	1,710
Eastern peripheral			360	359	423	423	554	554	804	854
Western	833	1,394	874	872	953	1,004	358	355	355	375
Delhi NCR			412	411	423	475	975	1,156	1,156	1,156
Heart centers	386	371	322	345	318	256	266	266	266	266
Managed centers	720	587	498	112	112	212	178	178	178	178
Cayman		106	106	106	106	110	110	110	164	164
Total	5,536	6,125	6,070	5,644	5,828	5,861	5,888	6,122	6,926	7,126
Occupancy (%)										
Bangalore	53.0	55.0	51.5	51.1	30.5	41.9	52.3	54.0	54.5	56.0
Southern Peripheral			40.7	41.5	31.1	40.0	38.3	39.0	40.5	42.5
Kolkata	57.0	60.0	58.5	57.2	40.8	50.2	51.7	52.0	46.0	48.0
Eastern peripheral			51.6	51.6	34.0	42.8	62.1	62.0	48.0	50.0
Western	47.0	37.1	45.9	51.4	36.1	42.4	52.3	52.0	53.0	54.0
Delhi NCR			26.4	35.6	31.5	34.0	34.5	36.0	40.0	43.0
Heart centers	40.0	40.0	50.0	48.0	35.0	45.0	47.2	48.0	50.0	52.0
Managed centers	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM
Cayman		27.0	32.1	39.0	34.3	47.3	47.5	52.0	39.0	43.0
Total	52.2	51.0	49.3	50.4	34.7	43.4	48.5	49.0	47.6	49.7
ARPOB (Rs)										
Bangalore	21,507	22,740	29,315	31,781	34,247	38,630	41,918	45,271	47,988	50,867
Southern Peripheral			17,808	19,178	25,205	26,575	27,123	29,293	31,051	32,914
Kolkata	19,863	20,000	23,014	24,932	24,932	30,411	34,795	38,274	40,188	42,197
Eastern peripheral			16,712	18,356	21,644	22,740	26,575	28,967	30,995	33,164
Western	18,630	23,288	21,644	22,740	27,123	29,863	29,315	31,660	33,243	34,905
Delhi NCR			34,247	37,260	38,904	46,301	38,082	39,986	41,986	44,085
Heart centers	20,000	20,001	21,001	22,051	23,154	31,754	38,104	42,296	45,256	48,424
Managed centers	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM
Cayman		273,781	306,542	287,671	385,205	387,860	462,518	508,770	529,120	550,285
Overall ARPOB	20,822	21,918	24,543	26,213	28,413	32,651	35,482	38,659	40,970	43,260

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Despite the significant capex phase, we expect NARH to generate cumulative FCF of Rs7.6 bn over FY2024-26E

Exhibit 18: NARH – summary financials, March fiscal year-ends, 2018-26E (Rs mn)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Profit and loss									
Net revenues	22,809	28,609	31,278	25,823	37,013	45,248	52,303	60,762	69,046
Gross profit	17,244	21,734	23,825	19,045	27,921	35,236	40,954	47,212	53,925
EBITDA	2,123	2,878	4,229	1,821	6,535	9,658	11,871	13,635	15,865
EBITDA (adjusted for Ind-AS)	2,123	2,878	3,821	1,314	5,987	9,086	11,282	13,028	15,240
Depreciation & amortisation	(1,000)	(1,374)	(1,858)	(1,835)	(1,835)	(2,100)	(2,635)	(3,205)	(3,595)
EBIT	1,123	1,505	2,371	(14)	4,700	7,558	9,236	10,430	12,271
Net interest	(279)	(547)	(615)	(478)	(317)	(40)	(307)	(441)	(333)
Profit before tax	845	957	1,756	(492)	4,383	7,518	8,929	9,990	11,938
Tax & deferred tax	(290)	(341)	(423)	418	(877)	(1,450)	(982)	(1,399)	(1,791)
Less: minority interest	-	1	1	0	2	3	5	10	10
Net income (reported)	514	592	1,189	(143)	3,419	6,062	7,927	8,556	10,112
EPS (reported) (Rs)	2.5	2.9	5.8	(0.7)	16.7	29.7	38.8	41.9	49.5
Balance sheet									
Cash & equivalents	353	1,007	1,841	2,421	3,034	6,312	8,691	11,907	17,328
Debtors	2,790	2,664	2,622	2,785	4,369	4,315	4,988	5,795	6,585
Other current assets	1,651	1,602	1,401	1,445	1,687	2,312	2,424	2,557	2,688
Current assets	4,793	5,274	5,864	6,651	9,090	12,939	16,102	20,259	26,601
Fixed assets (incl. goodwill)	18,830	18,943	18,662	17,806	18,779	24,650	33,378	39,673	42,578
Other non-current assets	1,733	2,154	4,384	3,243	3,428	4,032	4,032	4,032	4,032
Total assets	25,356	26,370	28,911	27,700	31,297	41,621	53,512	63,963	73,211
Short-term loans	376	115	108	212	1,127	1,258	1,258	1,258	1,258
Creditors and other liabilities	4,722	4,988	5,894	6,435	6,231	8,179	9,138	10,287	11,413
Current liabilities	5,098	5,103	6,003	6,647	7,358	9,437	10,396	11,546	12,671
Long-term loans	6,963	8,020	7,070	5,041	4,321	6,264	9,264	10,000	8,000
Other liabilities (incl. deferred)	2,935	2,432	4,474	4,803	4,724	4,596	4,596	4,596	4,596
Total liabilities	14,996	15,555	17,546	16,492	16,403	20,297	24,256	26,141	25,267
Equity	10,357	10,811	11,360	11,203	14,886	21,314	29,241	37,797	47,909
Total equity and liabilities	25,356	26,370	28,911	27,700	31,297	41,621	53,512	63,963	73,211
Cash flow									
Operating cash flow excl. working capital	2,088	2,703	3,946	2,527	6,127	9,200	10,889	12,237	14,075
Working capital	(265)	83	488	563	(1,277)	1,646	175	209	205
Interest expenses	(316)	(553)	(509)	(606)	(494)	(695)	(857)	(1,035)	(975)
Capex	(5,575)	(1,500)	(1,159)	(701)	(3,126)	(8,240)	(11,363)	(9,500)	(6,500)
FCF	(4,068)	733	2,766	1,783	1,230	1,911	(1,157)	1,911	6,805
Ratios (%)									
Gross margin (%)	75.6	76.0	76.2	73.8	75.4	77.9	78.3	77.7	78.1
EBITDA margin (%)	9.3	10.1	13.5	7.1	17.7	21.3	22.7	22.4	23.0
RoE (%)	5.1	5.6	10.7	(1.3)	26.2	33.5	31.4	25.5	23.6
RoCE (%) (post-tax)	5.0	5.3	9.0	(0.0)	18.5	23.3	23.1	19.6	19.2
Net debt/equity (X)	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	(0.0)	(0.2)

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Diversified Financials

India

Sector View: **Attractive** NIFTY-50: **19,795**

November 28, 2023

AMCs: Active fund performance in an upswing

Active equity funds in India have solid longer-term (10Y) track-record of delivering alpha, with mid-term (3Y/5Y) also seeing an upswing of late. There is also reaffirmation of 'high active' funds delivering outsized alpha, even as the share of such funds at an industry level remains low (~20%). We believe a commission-driven distribution structure and healthy performance track-record will limit passive substitution risk. HDFC and Nippon are well-placed to benefit, but returns will likely be driven by earnings growth with dependence on market returns.

Nearly 70-80% of active AUM outperforms on 10Y returns; 3Y/5Y also improves to 50-60%

We revisit last year's report '[Active performance and passive potential](#)' for a status check on fund performance of active equity funds. Industry has a solid track-record to deliver alpha on 10Y returns (70-80% of AUM beat benchmark, post fees), with shorter duration performance also on an upswing. The share of AUM outperforming on 5Y basis has improved to 55-60% (from 35-40% in Sep 2022) and 3Y basis to 45-50% (from 35-40%). Large-cap category is seeing recovery in alpha, whereas mid-cap/flexi are struggling and small-cap performance is moderating off a high base. Recent rebound in performance augurs well for the industry, even as we note that outperformance of active funds moves in cycles and is influenced by dispersion, momentum, etc. (see Exhibits 1-5).

Truly active funds deliver sizable alpha

Our analysis measured the 'activeness' of equity funds (using tracking error) across ~Rs20 tn active equity AUM. 'Most active' funds generated strong excess returns on average, suggesting that deviation versus benchmarks tends to reward investors with alpha. However, industry's share of top quartile (high active) AUM remains around ~20% with ~30% AUM in the bottom quartile. While differentiating versus benchmark is inevitable to combat passive substitution, highly differentiated positions can sometimes lead to performance issues and subsequent market share loss for AMCs (see Exhibits 6-8).

Scale versus skill of active asset management

While evidence from mature markets suggests decreasing returns to scale in active investing (at fund and industry level), we are less sure if scale is prevailing over skill for Indian MF industry yet. MF ownership in equity free float has risen to ~17% (~3X in 10Y) but has no correlation with ability to extract alpha. Further, the data on fund size versus tracking error/alpha gives an impression that even for large fund sizes, managers are able to differentiate versus the benchmark and deliver outsized alpha (see Exhibits 9-12).

Passive penetration is a function of distribution and alpha

In our view, passive adoption is not only a function of (1) long-term alpha track-record of active funds but also equally of (2) distribution models that can accommodate low-cost ETFs or index funds. We believe that India as a market will remain commission-driven over the medium term, which automatically restricts the runaway adoption of passive funds through the advisory route. Current regulations have nice alignment of interests across customers/distributors/AMCs with pass-through of scale benefits built into TER.

HDFC and Nippon well-placed but valuations have limited room for expansion

We look at equity fund performance of large listed and unlisted AMCs (see Exhibits 14-21). HDFC AMC followed by Nippon are likely to be best-placed to benefit from strong fund performance, industry flow tailwinds and fading concerns about impactful regulatory intervention. Flow market share is tracking higher than stock and will continue to drive market share gains. However, investment thesis is earnings-led with the key risk being earnings sensitivity to markets through MTM and slowdown in retail inflows.

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Abhijeet Sakhare
abhijeet.sakhare@kotak.com
+91-22-4336-1240

Nischint Chawathe
nischint.chawathe@kotak.com
+91-22-4336-0887

M B Mahesh, CFA
mb.mahesh@kotak.com
+91-22-4336-0886

Varun Palacharla
varun.palacharla@kotak.com
+91-22-4336-0888

Ashlesh Sonje, CFA
ashlesh.sonje@kotak.com
+91-22-4336-0889

Sidham Jain
sidham.jain@kotak.com

Active fund performance in an upswing

Our last year's note '[Active performance and passive potential](#)' (August 2022) has a more detailed discussion on drivers of active performance, global examples and estimation of passive substitution. This note looks at updated trends for some of the key data points such as fund performance, alpha delivery and active-ness of the industry in general. Key takeaways: (1) Industry is seeing an upswing in terms of share of AUM outperforming the industry as well as alpha delivery, and (2) large-cap category is seeing recovery in outperformance trends whereas mid cap continues to struggle while small-cap remains strong with declining trends.

Updated study covers ~200 equity funds with ~Rs15 tn in AUM

We considered a sample of equity funds with overall AUM of close to Rs14 tn across the major categories. We compiled rolling CAGR returns at monthly frequencies across four time horizons, viz. 1, 3, 5 and 10 years. For each of these ~200 funds, we compared their annualized alphas every month versus the respective benchmarks. While we cover returns starting from 2003, one of the drawbacks of the study is a lack of coverage of funds that have been closed or merged in this time period. The performance throughout is net of expense ratios. We show outperformance both in terms of AUM and the number of funds to provide a more complete picture. We comprehensively rely on ACE MF for raw data.

About 70-80% of AUM outperforms on 10Y; lower bucket returns also rebound in past 12 months

The mutual fund industry's track record (see Exhibit 1) in delivering outperformance remains solid on a long-term basis (10Y), with nearly 70-80% of AUM outperforming benchmarks. Excess returns for the industry have improved in 5Y and 3Y buckets as well since our last update in Sep 2022. Share of AUM outperforming on 5Y basis has improved to 55-60% (from 35-40% in Sep 2022) and 3Y basis to 45-50% (from 35-40%). Recovery in fund performance augurs well for the overall industry even as there are losers and winners across fund houses (discussed later). Another takeaway from these exhibits is the low proportion (30-60% across measurement periods) of funds that end up outperforming across time durations, creating fund selection challenges for end investors (see center charts in Exhibit 1).

Positive alpha (post fees) across measurement periods

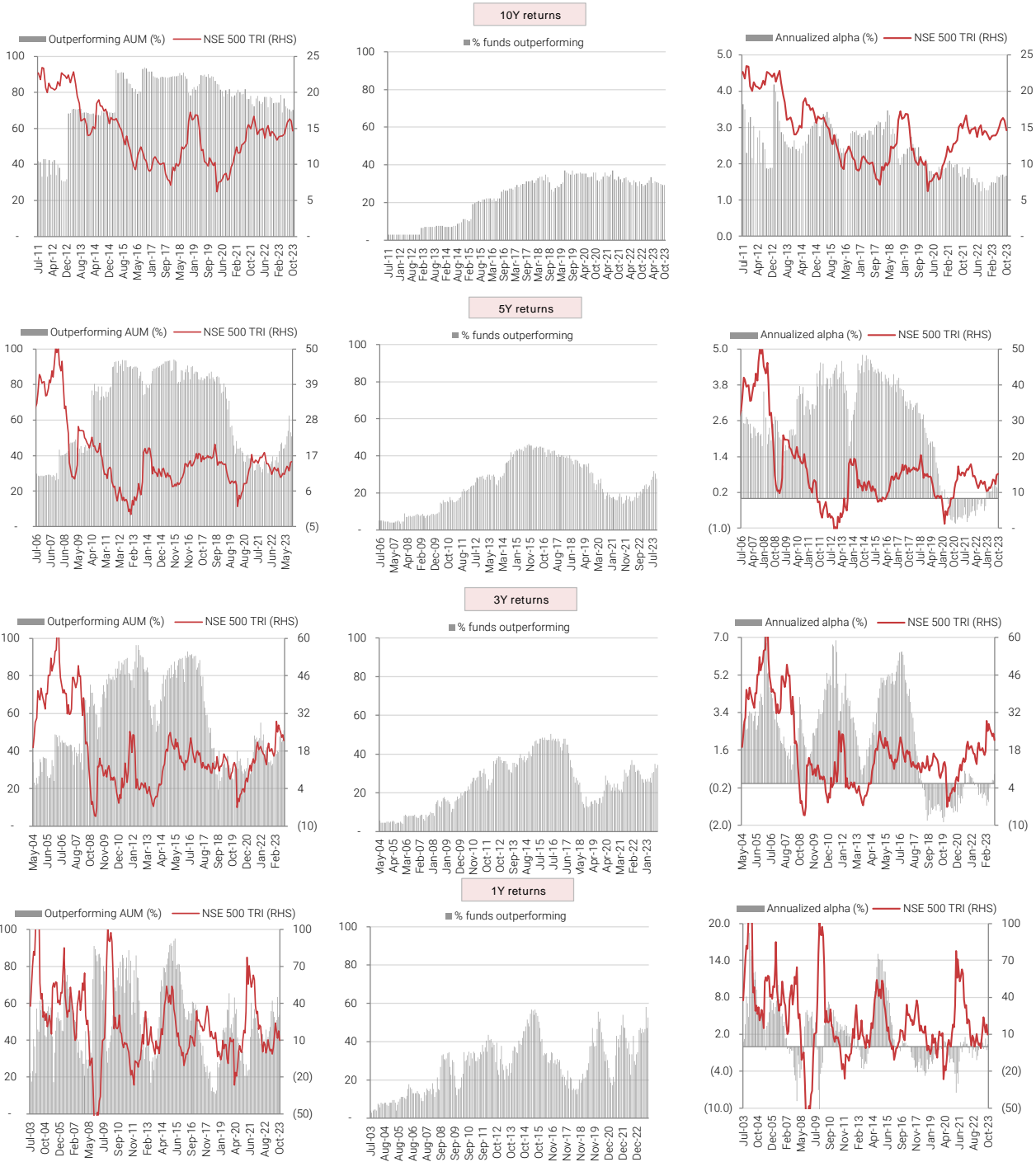
We next looked at the real impact in terms of actual excess returns generated by the entire universe of funds we have considered in the above-mentioned study (see right most charts in Exhibit 1). While 1Y data is quite volatile, 3Y and 5Y alphas have declined sharply over 2015-21, similar to what we see in the data above. However, this trend is showing signs of a reversal, with 3Y and 5Y returns slipping back into the positive zone. On the longer 10Y returns, alpha is around ~1.5-2%. These are post-fee returns, and as a result, represent very healthy outperformance.

Large and mid-cap and small-cap funds have done better; value funds make a strong comeback

We have run a similar analysis (see Exhibits 2-3) across major fund categories. There are varying trends across categories with large-cap funds showing recovery trends in 1Y and 3Y outperformance. Small cap funds have strong outperformance across 1, 3 and 5Y returns, albeit with declining trend in 1 and 3Y returns. Flexi cap category continues to struggle with only 30-50% of AUM outperforming benchmarks. Value funds have made a strong comeback in the recent period, with a big swing to ~75% of AUM outperforming compared with just 10% as of March 2020.

About 70-80% of AUM outperforms on 10Y; lower bucket returns also rebound in past 12 months

Exhibit 1: Percentage of AUM and funds outperforming benchmark and post-fee alpha across 1, 3, 5 and 10Y returns, July 2011-May 2022 (%)



Source: ACE MF, Kotak Institutional Equities

Large-cap outperformance has improved whereas small and mid-cap has become weaker in 1Y and 3Y returns

Exhibit 2: Share of AUM outperforming across fund categories on 1/3/5/10Y returns, 2010-23 (%)

Category	AUM (Rs bn)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Oct-23
10Y returns																
Large cap	2,590	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	55	72	71	78	78	77	76	72	76
Flexi cap	2,701	NA	NA	68	70	69	65	62	72	64	61	80	63	49	63	67
Mid cap	2,369	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	52	39	70	74	75	75	59	60	36
Large & mid cap	1,571	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	43	51	51	25	50	57	47	57	36
Focused equity	1,042	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	28	42	70	61	51	48	46	59	65
Small cap	1,936	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	36	37	53	59	43	76	72	71	66
Value	674	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	83	82	83	83	86	98	84	83	83
Multi cap	821	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	85	93	94	93	93	91	45	47	49
5Y returns																
Large cap	2,590	NA	64	76	79	74	97	78	82	84	83	23	28	19	19	30
Flexi cap	2,701	57	71	96	92	93	94	61	88	83	80	61	42	25	35	42
Mid cap	2,369	NA	69	73	92	69	79	84	82	80	51	31	24	23	45	36
Large & mid cap	1,571	NA	62	69	43	21	64	60	52	51	48	52	33	21	52	42
Focused equity	1,042	NA	18	70	81	83	85	89	89	93	86	45	56	29	9	57
Small cap	1,936	NA	19	30	71	70	76	93	93	81	82	93	76	79	85	80
Value	674	NA	84	86	98	98	97	100	87	91	91	10	0	-	60	59
Multi cap	821	NA	78	83	93	93	98	98	97	94	93	4	1	7	32	41
3Y returns																
Large cap	2,590	71	79	70	97	37	54	93	97	38	30	25	15	40	39	59
Flexi cap	2,701	92	95	97	94	90	95	89	90	44	60	43	25	31	34	37
Mid cap	2,369	74	92	54	54	72	82	84	69	4	9	35	31	46	10	38
Large & mid cap	1,571	52	53	22	71	56	54	71	43	35	26	52	33	40	21	28
Focused equity	1,042	58	80	76	49	72	89	95	98	55	20	22	15	59	34	63
Small cap	1,936	NA	68	44	85	92	92	92	88	93	77	89	79	74	65	60
Value	674	82	96	97	68	78	100	80	87	54	17	10	11	72	75	76
Multi cap	821	69	93	93	93	97	100	100	100	27	5	0	4	16	48	54
1Y returns																
Large cap	2,590	54	76	96	17	60	98	63	57	23	33	64	18	29	77	79
Flexi cap	2,701	58	93	95	38	86	96	47	58	19	51	74	22	29	54	53
Mid cap	2,369	31	33	60	45	64	83	43	40	3	73	68	5	26	53	29
Large & mid cap	1,571	9	62	60	49	87	76	30	53	10	34	72	11	29	41	22
Focused equity	1,042	75	25	74	42	49	98	45	100	25	23	54	33	67	24	64
Small cap	1,936	NA	61	83	100	77	85	99	23	75	87	77	5	68	96	47
Value	674	80	28	98	35	66	98	72	87	34	-	10	80	71	92	89
Multi cap	821	68	92	86	89	97	100	11	25	8	83	16	1	50	55	77

Source: ACE MF, Kotak Institutional Equities

Strong 3Y outperformance in large-cap, balanced advantage and select thematic categories

Exhibit 3: % of AUM outperforming benchmark across categories in 1/3/5/10Y returns, October 2023 (%)

Category	AUM (Rs bn)	% of AUM beating benchmark			
		1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y
Flexi cap	2,816	52	35	41	80
Large cap	2,607	79	59	29	76
Mid cap	2,391	29	37	35	41
Balanced advantage	2,146	94	69	34	89
Thematic	1,978	84	68	49	82
Small cap	1,960	42	58	78	85
ELSS	1,727	56	52	40	77
Hybrid equity	1,720	53	93	44	91
Large & mid cap	1,600	19	28	41	37
Focused	1,111	55	32	53	63
Multi cap	836	62	45	35	70
Value	835	91	79	76	90
Equity savings	228	89	89	30	73

Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

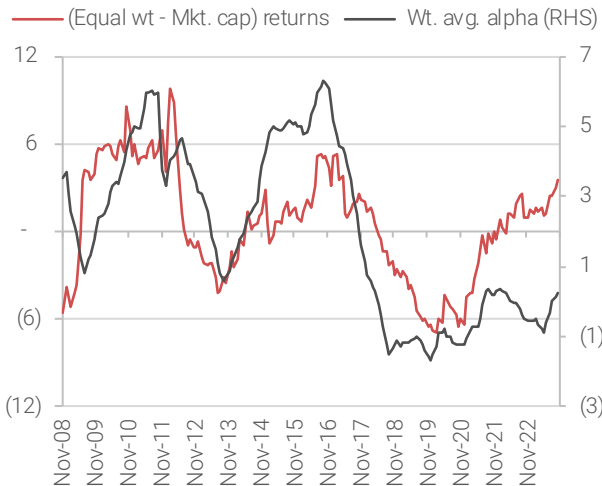
Increasing market dispersion favorable for active fund managers

Dispersion measures the spread of returns within the constituents of the broader market. There is a direct linkage between the level of dispersion and the ability to generate alpha. Easy way to measure dispersion is to compare market cap weighted returns on a broad index with its equal weighted counterpart. We plot the difference between the 3Y returns for the two for NSE 500 and compare it with 3Y alpha on active equity funds. There is a good positive correlation over the past 15 years. Data also shows that dispersion trends move in cycles with current trends being on the upside (see Exhibits 4-5).

In a low-dispersion scenario, stock returns are more homogenous. Active managers would find it difficult to identify attractive return opportunities that can justify the management fees. A high dispersion environment is favorable to active managers as the wider breadth allows them to express their skills through buying/avoiding stocks and hence deliver performance that compensated for the management fees.

Dispersion in returns across stocks favors active returns...

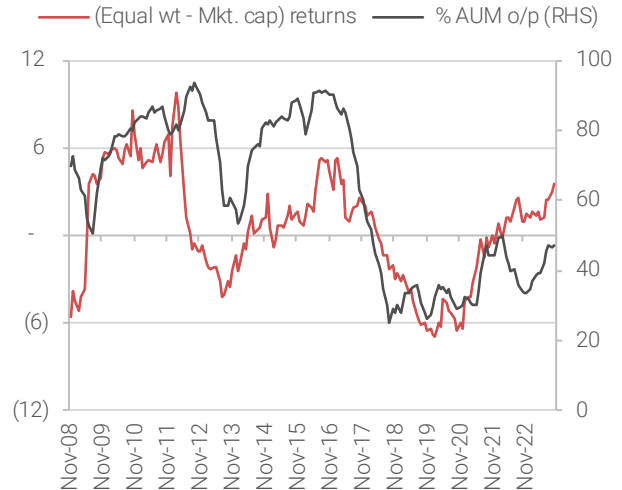
Exhibit 4: Difference between 3Y returns in equal and market cap weight NSE500 index vs 3Y alpha delivered by active equity funds (%)



Source: Bloomberg, ACE MF, Kotak Institutional Equities

...which should support flows into well-performing active funds

Exhibit 5: Difference between 3Y returns in equal and market cap weight NSE500 index vs % of outperforming active equity AUM (%)



Source: Bloomberg, ACE MF, Kotak Institutional Equities

How active are active equity funds?

Performance of active managers leaves potential for passive investing to gain AUM share. However, the challenge is framing a logical construct that helps us size up this potential. One of the approaches presented by research is evaluating the ‘active share’ for actively managed funds. Active share refers to the extent to which a fund portfolio deviates from the benchmark both in terms of weights and stock selection. A fund with a high active share would imply that the fund manager is willing to differentiate against the market (i.e., index).

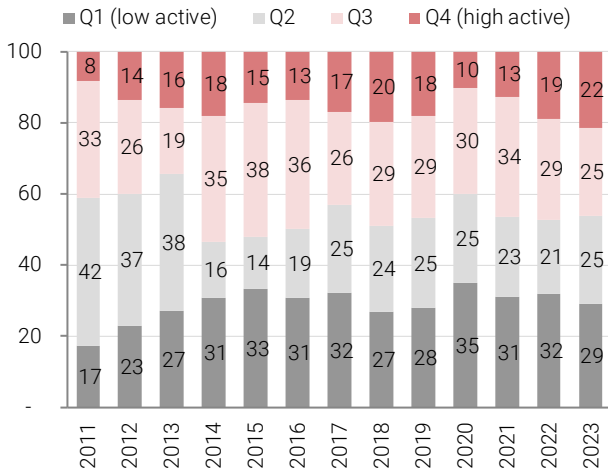
While a high active share implies a deviation from the index, it does not necessarily imply superior stock-picking skill. However, research supports the view that when presented with favorable opportunities, high active funds have shown outperformance. Experience from the US market at the time of the dot com crash shows that funds with active share were richly rewarded during the 2000-02 bear market.

More active = better chance of outperformance

For a similar analysis in India, we considered a sample size of around 350 equity funds (as of October 2023, lower in earlier years) and Rs20 tn AUM. We calculated the active share using the proxy of tracking error. Tracking error is the annualized standard deviation of the difference in returns between a fund and its target index. A low tracking error would mean that the fund consistently gives returns closer to its benchmark. In the past decade, least active quartile funds (i.e., Q1 in exhibits) have been around 30% of the sample size and most active funds were nearly 20% of AUM (see Exhibit 6). Secondly, top-quartile active funds as a group have delivered the highest asset growth in the past decade (see Exhibit 7).

Nearly ~20% of AUM falls under lowest active quartile

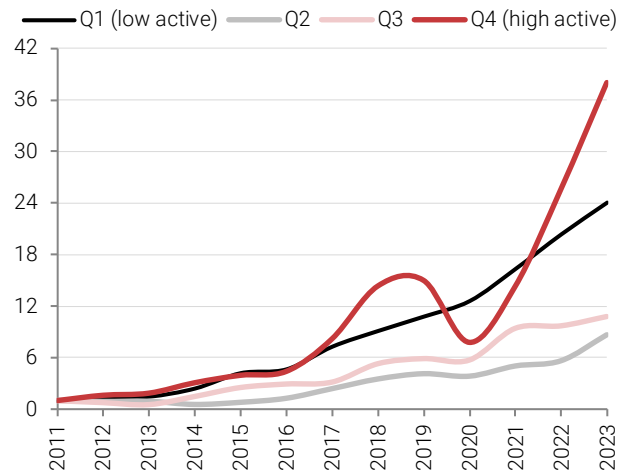
Exhibit 6: Breakdown of India active equity AUM (Rs20 tn) across quartiles of tracking error (proxy for active share), May 2011-October 2023 (%)



Source: Kotak Institutional Equities

Highest active funds (Q4) have delivered highest growth followed by lowest active funds (Q1)

Exhibit 7: Indexed growth of equity funds across quartiles of tracking error (proxy for active share), May 2011-October 2023 (%)

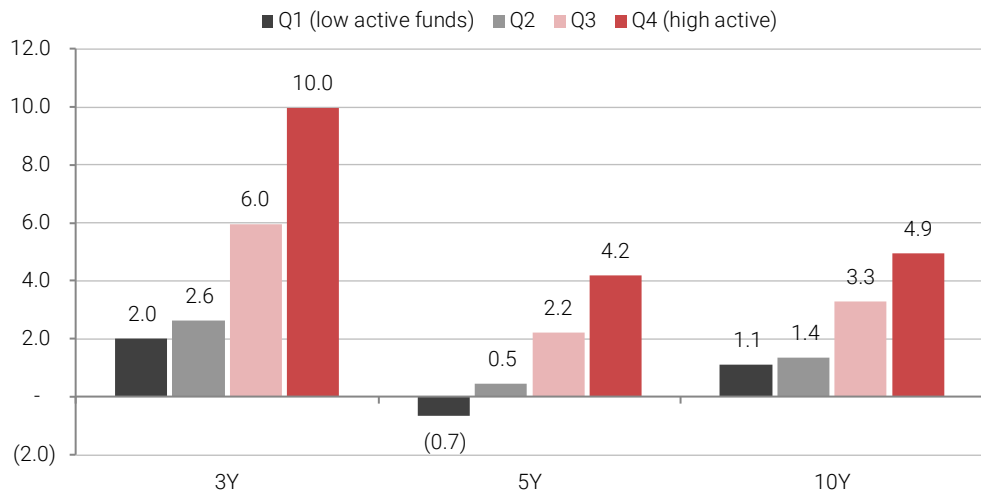


Source: Kotak Institutional Equities

Our bottom-up analysis measuring ‘activeness’ of equity funds indicates that truly active funds richly reward investors, with top-quartile active funds delivering ~200-300 bps net excess returns (at lower expense ratios) over bottom-quartile funds across 3/5/10Y performance periods. We believe this is a crucial conclusion as it provides credence to the view that truly active fund managers have a rightful place given their ability to deliver alpha in the long term. In this analysis, we are still looking at excess returns after fees (see Exhibit 8).

Most active funds (i.e., Q4) deliver ~200-300 bps excess returns over 3Y/5Y/10Y periods

Exhibit 8: Excess returns over benchmark (simple average) across quartiles of active funds for 3/5/10Y returns, October 2023 (%)



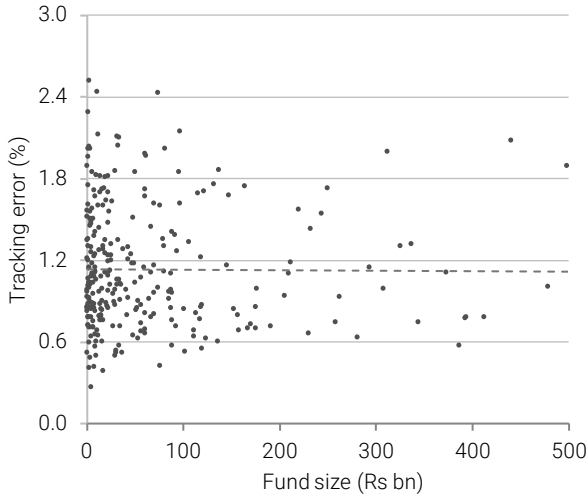
Source: ACE MF, Kotak Institutional Equities

No clear evidence of size hurting fund performance

Research from markets with mature asset management industry has shown that active fund manager’s ability to outperform declines with the increase in fund size, and this is hypothesized to play out at the fund level (larger fund’s trades have impact costs) and at the industry level (more money chasing same opportunities). To see the effect of size on ability to differentiate (through tracking) or deliver outperformance (we use 3Y alpha), we show scatter plots of fund size versus tracking error (see Exhibit 9) and fund size vs 3Y alpha (see Exhibit 10). Both exhibits do not show any strong relationship. In fact, there is a mild positive correlation between fund size and alpha. This probably indicates relative fund manager skill is still able to extract excess returns from the market.

Some of the large funds also operate at high tracking error

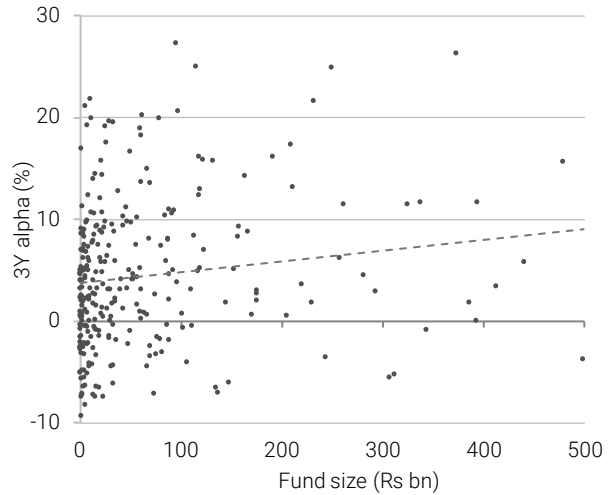
Exhibit 9: Fund size vs tracking error, October 2023



Source: ACE MF, Kotak Institutional Equities

Mild positive correlation between fund size and alpha (3Y)

Exhibit 10: Fund size vs 3Y alpha, October 2023



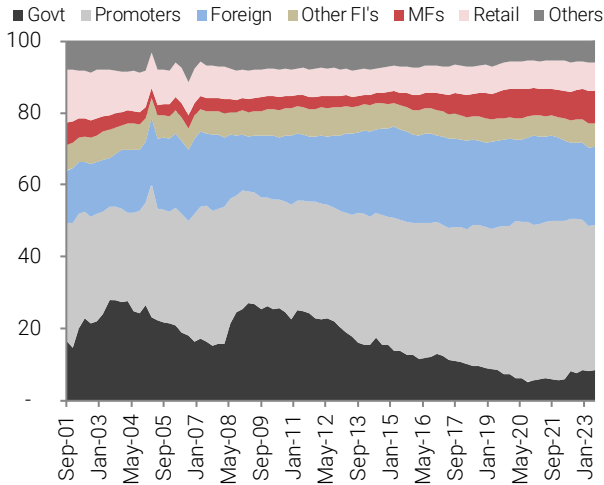
Source: ACE MF, Kotak Institutional Equities

Rising MF ownership yet to reflect in capacity constraints

Ownership of the Indian equity market (see Exhibit 11) continues to be dominated by promoters (~40% share), followed by foreign participants (FPIs and ADR/GDR; owning 22%). Mutual funds own 9% and retail own 8%. While still low, the participation of mutual funds in the Indian equity market has risen consistently in the past few years (~3X in last decade). There are many variables that could determine the ability to generate alpha by fund managers. Ownership of retail investors (less informed) being as high as mutual funds (more informed) should work in favor of active funds (see Exhibit 12). On the other hand, a large share of promoter (insiders) holding probably hinders the liquidity needed for active managers to fully execute their fundamental views on stocks. This limitation has other crucial implications for the mutual fund industry in its ability to deploy flows (underlying tailwinds of financial inclusion, etc.) in the absence of sufficient market depth. This is even more pertinent for mid-cap and small-cap stocks, given that is one area where active managers have relatively higher potential to add value.

MF ownership of Indian equities has tripled in 10 years, but remains much lower than FIIs

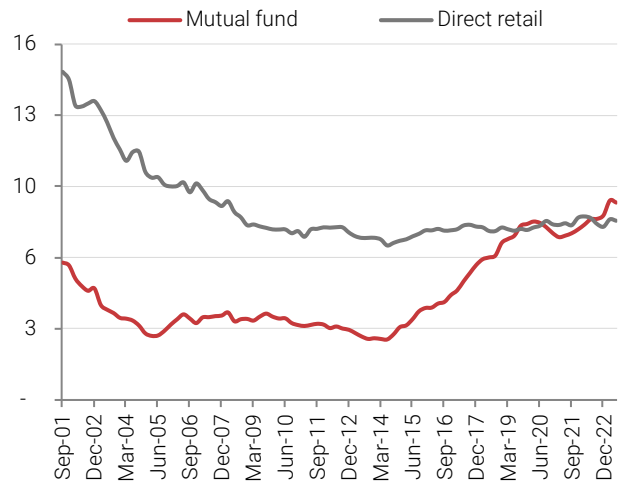
Exhibit 11: Stock market ownership by investor category, 2001-23 (%)



Source: Primeinfobase, Bloomberg, Kotak Institutional

MF ownership has recently surpassed direct retail ownership of public equities

Exhibit 12: Stock market ownership by mutual funds and retail, 2001-23 (%)



Source: Primeinfobase, Bloomberg, Kotak Institutional

Large PMS funds seeing outflows; MFs are potential beneficiaries

We believe MF industry is potentially a net beneficiary of outflows seen from PMS funds. We look at the SEBI data for large PMS funds by comparing their discretionary AUM, 1Y alpha and net inflows in 1HFY24 (see Exhibit 13). This covers nearly Rs2 tn of AUM and likely covers about three-fourths of discretionary PMS AUM. We note that quite a few of these funds are seeing net outflows over the past 6-9 months, unlike the mutual fund industry. PMS inflows have been largely concentrated in funds with very strong outperformance versus benchmarks, whereas struggling fund houses have seen outflows.

Mixed track record of large PMS funds in the past one year

Exhibit 13: AUM, performance and flows in select large PMS funds, as of September 2023

	# of clients	Discretionary AUM (Rs bn)	1Y alpha (%)	1HFY24 net flows (Rs bn)
Enam Asset Management	1,058	353	6.4	5
ASK Investment Managers Limited	18,207	264	(9.8)	(27)
Quantum Advisors	7	183	2.0	(17)
IIFL Asset Management	7,473	176	2.2	(3)
Unifi Capital	9,232	170	3.9	16
White Oak Capital Management	6,187	133	(1.2)	(13)
Motilal Oswal AMC	11,338	106	(0.9)	(16)
Abakkus Asset Manager LLP	5,352	101	19	15
Marcellus Investment Managers	7,535	92	(14)	(12)
Valuequest Investment Advisors	590	92	14	22
ICICI Pru AMC	8,198	82	15	23
IIFL Wealth Portfolio Managers	1,881	82	0.8	(17)
Banyan Tree	1,900	47	1.3	2
Alchemy Capital	1,877	46	(3.3)	(4)
NJ AMC	3,748	36	(2.2)	(3)
Ambit Investment Advisors	1,760	26	(4.7)	(1)
Sundaram Alternate Assets	2,573	24	(9.5)	(1)
Old Bridge	413	13	12	(1)
Anvil Wealth Management	569	9	(2.0)	(1)
Trust Investment Advisors	273	8	(1.6)	1
Total of above	90,171	2,044	1.8	(34)

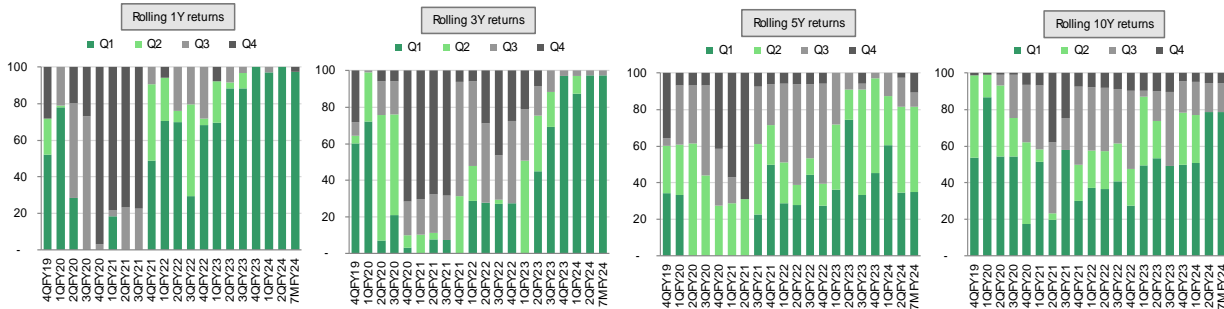
Source: SEBI, Kotak Institutional Equities

Fund performance for large AMCs: HDFC and Nippon lead

The following exhibits provide an overview of active fund performance for large mutual fund houses. The sample covers a large sample of equity-oriented portfolio for each AMC. HDFC AMC is going through a strong run of fund performance, followed by Nippon AMC. This augurs well for market share gains.

HDFC AMC: Strong fund performance in 1/3/5Y buckets

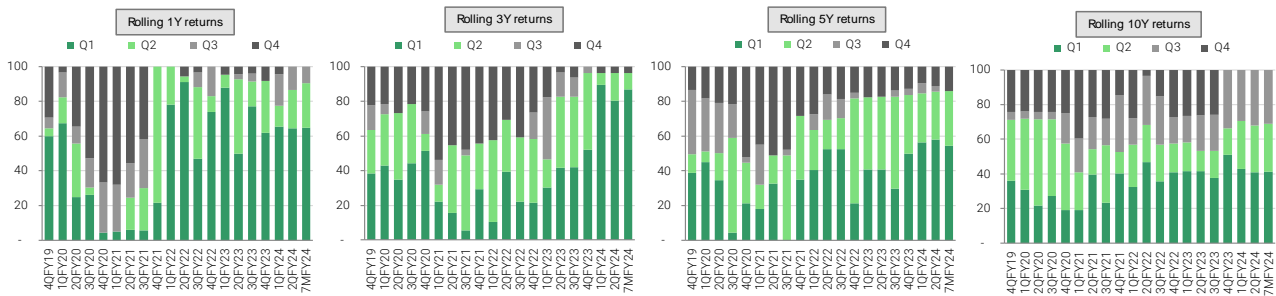
Exhibit 14: Share of active equity AUM (covering ~80% of active equity AUM across quartiles of performance) (%)



Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

Nippon AMC: Improved fund performance in 1/3/5Y

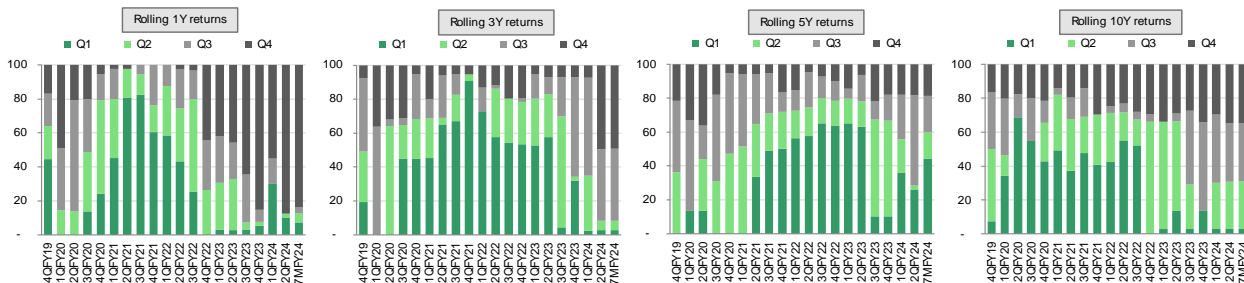
Exhibit 15: Share of active equity AUM (covering ~80% of active equity AUM across quartiles of performance) (%)



Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

UTI AMC: Fund performance has become weaker in recent quarters

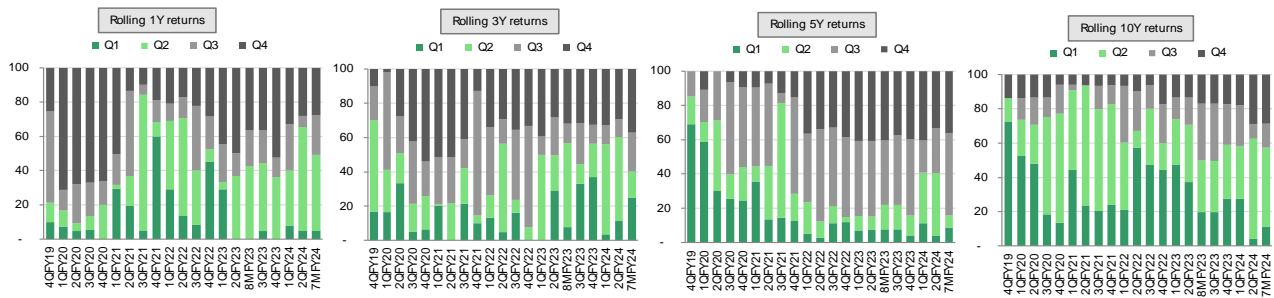
Exhibit 16: Share of active equity AUM (covering ~80% of active equity AUM across quartiles of performance) (%)



Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

ABSL AMC: Fund performance is weak in 1Y and 5Y, while 3Y remains volatile

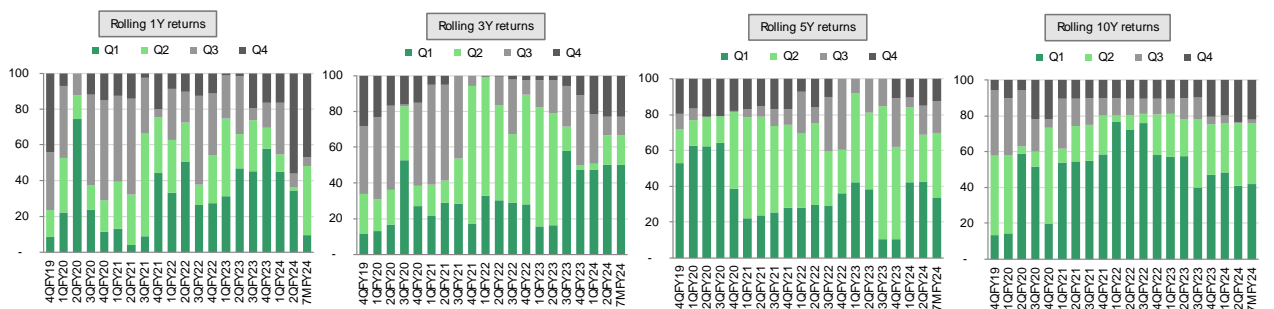
Exhibit 17: Share of active equity AUM (covering ~80% of active equity AUM across quartiles of performance) (%)



Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

SBI MF: Fund performance is weak in 1Y and relatively healthy in 3Y and 5Y

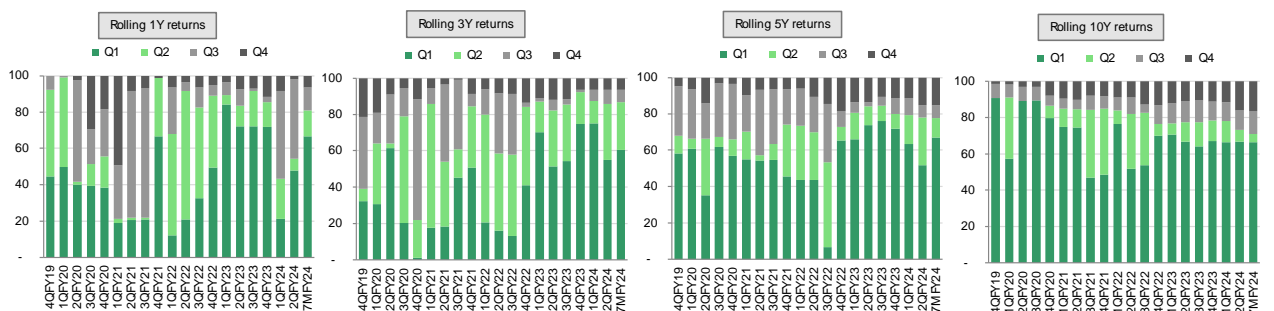
Exhibit 18: Share of active equity AUM (covering ~65-70% of active equity AUM across quartiles of performance) (%)



Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

IPRU AMC: Fund performance is strong across 1Y, 3Y and 5Y

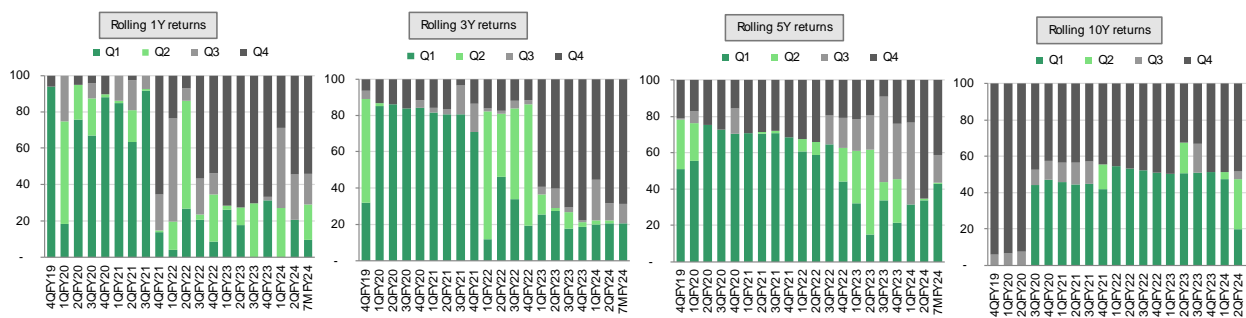
Exhibit 19: Share of active equity AUM (covering ~80% of active equity AUM across quartiles of performance) (%)



Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

Axis AMC: Fund performance is weak across 1Y, 3Y and 5Y

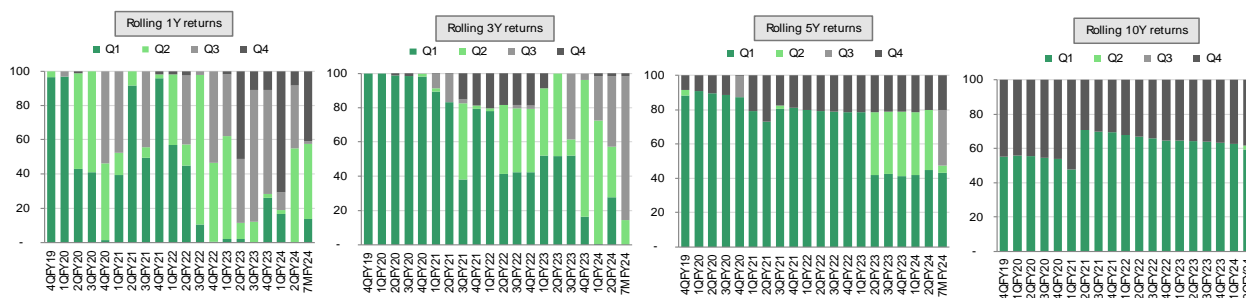
Exhibit 20: Share of active equity AUM (covering ~80% of active equity AUM across quartiles of performance) (%)



Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

Mirae AMC: Fund performance has weakened in 3Y and 5Y

Exhibit 21: Share of active equity AUM (covering ~80% of active equity AUM across quartiles of performance) (%)



Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

Market share gains for HDFC AMC and Nippon AMC in recent months

Exhibit 22: Actively-managed equity oriented MAAUM market share, March fiscal year-ends, 2014-24 (%)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	1HFY24	7MFY24
Market share in equity oriented MAAUM												
Aditya Birla Sun Life	6.0	7.2	7.7	8.7	9.2	8.8	7.7	7.2	6.4	5.5	5.2	5.1
Axis AMC	1.5	2.3	3.1	3.3	3.6	4.6	6.8	8.0	8.4	7.1	6.3	6.2
Bandhan AMC	4.0	3.8	2.9	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.6	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5
DSP Mutual Fund	4.5	4.1	3.7	4.4	4.4	3.9	3.9	4.1	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.3
Franklin Templeton	7.1	6.8	7.5	7.5	5.6	5.2	4.3	3.7	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.5
HDFC AMC	19.9	18.5	15.1	15.8	16.2	15.6	14.4	13.0	11.4	12.2	12.6	12.7
ICICI Prudential AMC	11.2	13.5	14.2	15.2	15.0	14.3	13.5	12.5	12.4	13.0	12.9	12.9
Kotak AMC	1.8	2.5	3.2	3.7	4.7	5.1	6.4	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.2
Mirae AMC	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.2	1.5	2.2	3.5	4.7	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.7
Nippon Life India AMC	12.3	12.2	11.2	9.7	9.2	8.9	7.4	6.9	6.3	6.4	6.7	6.7
SBI AMC	7.3	6.1	7.0	8.0	7.9	8.9	9.7	10.2	12.0	12.6	12.9	12.9
Tata AMC	2.2	2.0	2.5	2.1	1.7	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9
UTI AMC	10.6	8.7	7.4	6.3	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.8	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.2
Total of above players	88.8	88.1	86.4	88.2	86.1	86.5	86.9	86.3	84.7	83.5	82.9	82.8
Top 10	85.2	83.3	80.2	82.7	80.7	79.9	78.5	78.0	77.4	76.6	76.0	75.9
Others	11.2	11.9	13.6	11.8	13.9	13.5	13.1	13.7	15.3	16.5	17.1	17.2

Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

Increase in actively-managed equity oriented mix

Exhibit 23: Share of actively-managed equity MAAUM to total MAAUM, March fiscal year-ends, 2014-24 (%)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	1HFY24	7MFY24
Proportion of actively-managed equity oriented MAAUM												
Aditya Birla Sun Life	13.8	21.8	23.7	26.8	34.8	36.9	33.5	36.3	41.0	42.5	43.5	42.8
Axis AMC	18.5	30.9	33.4	33.3	44.9	52.2	50.6	55.4	60.5	62.2	62.3	61.9
DSP Mutual Fund	28.4	41.9	40.9	40.7	47.6	51.9	51.7	57.1	65.2	63.0	64.9	64.9
Franklin Templeton	30.3	35.5	48.1	54.3	51.9	44.5	42.4	63.7	84.6	86.8	87.8	87.7
HDFC AMC	34.7	41.8	35.8	40.3	50.4	47.2	42.0	43.7	50.6	56.5	61.1	61.4
ICICI Prudential AMC	21.0	32.6	33.5	37.3	45.8	46.4	41.1	41.9	49.4	54.2	56.3	56.5
IDFC Mutual fund	19.4	26.6	24.1	23.0	29.4	31.6	26.2	22.6	25.4	26.9	30.3	30.8
Kotak AMC	10.6	21.2	22.3	23.7	36.1	35.0	36.4	39.5	46.4	50.1	54.4	55.0
Mirae AMC	85.2	93.3	93.5	93.4	86.4	87.8	87.6	89.6	90.5	88.2	85.7	86.0
Nippon Life India AMC	23.6	32.2	29.6	27.5	35.5	40.7	39.3	41.3	41.8	44.8	47.7	47.7
SBI AMC	21.4	28.9	26.7	30.0	33.9	31.9	27.3	27.6	34.7	36.9	39.7	40.3
Tata AMC	19.3	26.6	32.2	29.6	34.4	44.1	48.7	56.6	61.4	59.2	57.4	59.4
UTI AMC	28.9	34.7	29.8	27.9	30.4	31.6	32.5	35.2	40.0	39.4	41.2	41.3
Total of above players	23.7	32.3	31.4	33.2	40.7	41.4	38.6	41.2	47.2	49.7	52.2	52.4
Total (ex-SBI, UTI)	23.4	32.4	32.2	34.4	43.0	44.5	42.2	46.4	53.2	56.9	59.5	59.6
Others	14.2	23.5	29.2	29.7	43.1	51.5	49.7	54.7	61.5	63.4	65.6	65.9

Source: AMFI, Kotak Institutional Equities

Kotak Institutional Equities: Valuation summary of KIE Universe stocks

Company	Rating	Price (Rs)			Mkt cap. (Rs bn)	O/S shares (mn)	EPS (Rs)			EPS growth (%)			P/E (X)			EV/EBITDA (X)			P/B (X)			RoE (%)			Dividend yield (%)			ADVT-3mo (US\$ mn)	
		24-Nov-23	Fair Value (Rs)	Upside (%)			2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E		
Specialty Chemicals																													
Aarti Industries	REDUCE	531	490	(8)	193	2.3	363	11	16	25	(29)	50	55	50	33	21	22	18	13	3.7	3.4	3.0	8	11	15	0.3	0.5	0.9	10
Atul	SELL	6,541	4,070	(38)	193	2.3	30	134	167	203	(23)	24	21	49	39	32	27	22	19	3.9	3.6	3.3	8	9	11	0.3	0.5	0.6	4
Castrol India	ADD	141	150	7	139	1.7	989	9	10	10	4	12	7	16	15	14	11	10	9	6.8	6.3	5.8	43	45	45	5.0	5.7	6.0	3
Clean Science & Technology	ADD	1,344	1,480	10	143	1.7	106	18	32	53	(35)	75	67	74	42	25	53	31	19	12.2	9.9	7.5	18	26	34	0.2	0.4	0.7	2
Deepak Nitrite	REDUCE	2,195	2,120	(3)	299	3.6	136	60	69	79	(4)	15	15	37	32	28	25	22	20	6.2	5.3	4.5	18	18	18	0.3	0.3	0.4	11
Navin Fluorine	ADD	3,733	3,620	(3)	185	2.2	50	69	99	143	(8)	42	45	54	38	26	33	23	17	7.4	6.3	5.1	15	18	22	0.2	0.2	0.3	13
Pidilite Industries	ADD	2,504	2,750	10	1,274	15.3	508	38	45	52	52	17	16	66	56	48	44	38	33	15.5	13.7	12.3	25	26	27	0.8	1.0	1.2	12
PI Industries	ADD	3,766	4,110	9	571	6.9	152	111	126	148	36	13	18	34	30	25	27	22	19	6.6	5.5	4.6	21	20	20	0.3	0.4	0.5	11
SRF	BUY	2,359	2,630	11	699	8.4	296	50	73	102	(31)	45	40	47	32	23	25	19	14	6.1	5.3	4.4	14	17	21	0.5	0.6	—	11
Vinati Organics	SELL	1,727	1,730	0	177	2.1	104	41	56	68	(7)	34	23	42	31	25	30	22	18	6.6	5.6	4.7	17	20	20	0.4	0.5	0.6	1
Specialty Chemicals	Neutral				3,874	46.5					0.0	25.6	25.9	45.4	36.2	28.7	29.2	23.5	19.0	7.5	6.5	5.6	16.4	18.0	19.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	78
Telecommunication Services																													
Bharti Airtel	ADD	973	975	0	5,696	68.3	5,967	26	38	47	62	47	25	38	26	21	9	7	6	6.6	5.0	4.2	19	22	22	0.5	0.6	0.6	56
Indus Towers	ADD	186	185	(0)	500	6.0	2,695	19	21	13	106	9	(37)	10	9	14	4	3	4	1.9	1.6	1.6	22	20	11	0.8	7.0	4.0	21
Vodafone Idea	RS	13	—	—	650	7.8	48,680	(7)	(6)	(7)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	19	18	21	(0.6)	(0.5)	(0.4)	NM	NM	NM	—	—	—	49
Tata Communications	SELL	1,724	1,400	(19)	491	5.9	285	37	44	64	46	18	46	46	39	27	14	11	9	25.0	17.5	11.8	61	52	53	0.8	0.9	1.4	19
Telecommunication Services	Attractive				7,337	88.0					32	93	256	NM	NM	615.8	10.0	8.4	7.7	78	59	161	NM	NM	26	0.5	1.0	0.8	145
Transportation																													
Adani Ports and SEZ	BUY	796	940	18	1,718	20.6	2,160	40	48	55	4	19	16	20	17	14	14	11	10	3.2	2.7	2.3	18	18	17	0.3	0.4	0.5	47
Container Corp.	SELL	749	660	(12)	456	5.5	609	21	24	28	8	17	17	36	31	27	22	19	16	3.9	3.7	3.5	11	12	13	1.3	1.5	1.8	10
Delhivery	REDUCE	383	390	2	281	3.4	729	(4)	(0)	2	69	92	596	NM	NM	216	1,725	65	37	3.1	3.0	2.8	NM	NM	1	—	—	—	7
Gateway Distriparks	BUY	108	97	(10)	54	0.6	500	5	6	7	10	18	13	20	17	15	14	11	10	2.8	2.5	2.2	14	15	15	1.6	1.7	1.9	1
GMR Airports	REDUCE	60	55	(9)	364	4.4	6,036	(1)	(0)	0	12	86	225	NM	NM	290	22	12	10	(37.1)	(119.3)	(202.7)	83	16	NM	—	—	—	10
Gujarat Pipavav Port	ADD	137	140	3	66	0.8	483	8	9	10	14	15	15	18	15	13	10	9	8	2.7	2.6	2.5	16	17	19	3.8	4.3	5.0	5
InterGlobe Aviation	BUY	2,568	3,300	28	991	11.9	383	179	175	199	2,295	(2)	13	14	15	13	5	4	3	165.6	13.5	2.5	NM	170	68	—	—	—	24
Mahindra Logistics	REDUCE	362	340	(6)	26	0.3	71	3	10	20	(34)	222	90	112	35	18	12	9	7	4.5	4.1	3.5	4	12	21	—	—	—	1
Transportation	Attractive				3,958	47.5					106.9	16.9	17.2	24.2	20.7	17.6	11.8	9.3	7.7	5.0	4.1	3.4	21	19.8	19.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	105
KIE universe					234,216	2,809					24.5	12.9	12.3	22.1	19.6	17.5	13.1	11.6	10.4	3.4	3.0	2.7	15.4	15.5	15.6	1.4	1.6	1.8	

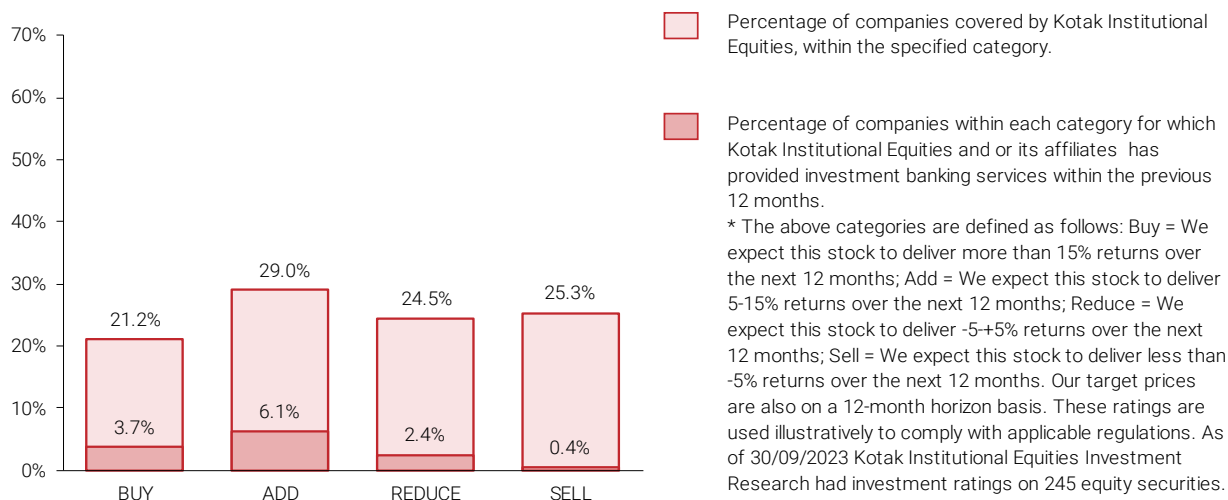
Notes:
(a) We have used adjusted book values for banking companies.
(b) 2022 means calendar year 2021, similarly for 2023 and 2024 for these particular companies.
(c) Exchange rate (Rs/US\$)= 83.4

Source: Company, Bloomberg, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

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Kotak Institutional Equities Research coverage universe



Source: Kotak Institutional Equities

As of September 30, 2023

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SELL. We expect this stock to deliver <-5% returns over the next 12 months.

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Corporate Office

Kotak Securities Ltd.
27 BKC, Plot No. C-27, "G Block" Bandra Kurla
Complex, Bandra (E) Mumbai 400 051, India
Tel: +91-22-43360000

Overseas Affiliates

Kotak Mahindra (UK) Ltd 8th Floor,
Portoken House 155-157 Minories
London EC3N 1LS
Tel: +44-20-7977-6900

Kotak Mahindra Inc
PENN 1,1 Pennsylvania Plaza,
Suite 1720, New York, NY 10119, USA
Tel: +1-212-600-8858

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Details of	Contact Person	Address	Contact No.	Email ID
Customer Care/ Complaints	Mr. Ritesh Shah	Kotak Towers, 8th Floor, Building No.21, Infinity Park, Off Western Express Highway, Malad (East), Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400097	18002099393	ks.escalation@kotak.com
Head of Customer Care	Mr. Tabrez Anwar		022-42858208	ks.servicehead@kotak.com
Compliance Officer	Mr Sandeep Gupta		022-42858484	ks.compliance@kotak.com
CEO	Mr. Jaideep Hansraj		022-42858301	ceo.ks@kotak.com

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