RESULT UPDATE



KEY DATA

Rating	HOLD
Sector relative	NEUTRAL
Price (INR)	141
12 month price target (INR)	141
52 Week High/Low	143/99
Market cap (INR bn/USD bn)	580/6.6
Free float (%)	8.0
Avg. daily value traded (INR mn)	1,789.8

SHAREHOLDING PATTERN

	Sep-25	Jun-25	Mar-25
Promoter	65.0%	65.0%	65.0%
FII	3.76%	3.65%	3.20%
DII	18.09%	17.31%	15.75%
Pledge	13.15%	14.04%	16.05%

FINANCIALS (INR bn) Year to March FY25A FY26E FY27E FY28E Revenue 1,024.8 1,090.3 1,131.0 1,169.4 **EBITDA** 106.3 116.3 143.9 151.6 Adjusted profit 24.6 36.6 51.9 54.4 Diluted EPS (INR) 6.0 8.8 12.6 13.2 4.8 EPS growth (%) (31.2)48.6 41.9 RoAE (%) 5.8 8.6 8.5 3.9 22.8 15.4 10.8 10.3 P/E (x) EV/EBITDA (x) 8.6 7.4 6.1 6.0 Dividend yield (%) 1.2 2.9

CHANGE IN ESTIMATES

(INR bn)	Revised estimates		% Revi	sion
Year to March	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	1085.3	1126.0	-1.0	1.6
EBITDA	116.3	143.9	-8.5	-0.8
Adjusted profit	36.6	51.9	-6.6	3.5
Diluted EPS (INR)	8.8	12.6	-6.8	3.8

PRICE PERFORMANCE



Good showing in seasonally weak quarter

SAIL reported better-than-expected Q2FY26 adjusted EBITDA of INR25.3bn (our estimate: INR20.8bn), down 3% QoQ, whereas adjusted EBITDA/t fell INR553 QoQ to INR5,142. Higher sales volume and lower cost partially offset weakness in steel prices. External debt reduced by INR23.1bn QoQ to INR264.3bn.

We reckon Q3FY26E EBITDA/t would be flat QoQ despite expectation of an improvement in steel prices in December. Amid delay in steel price increase, we are cutting FY26E/27E EBITDA by 8.5%/0.8% to factor in lower steel prices. This along with a valuation rollover to FY28E yields a TP of INR141 (earlier: INR135) at 6x EV/EBITDA; maintain 'HOLD'.

Adjusted EBITDA down 3% QoQ; lower prices offset by higher volume

Adjusted EBITDA decreased 3% QoQ to INR25.3bn while EBITDA/t fell INR553 QoQ to INR5,142. The decrease was due to lower steel realisation of INR2,900/t QoQ partially offset by higher scrap and by-product sales at INR11.4bn (up 31% QoQ) and higher sales volume (4.91mt, up 8% QoQ). Coking coal cost increased INR500/t to ~INR17,400/t in Q2FY26, and we expect a further rise of INR600-700/t in Q3FY26E. Sales volume of 4.91mt includes ~300kt of trading volume coming from NMDC Steel (revenue contribution of ~INR15bn). Despite higher volume, other expenses at INR78.7bn, flat QoQ, provided benefits of operating leverage. The company reported one-off cost of INR3.38bn (exceptional item) due to increase in gratuity limit to INR2.5mn from INR2mn, affecting gratuity provision.

Management has maintained FY26 sales volume (ex-trading volume of NMDC Steel) guidance of 18.5mt for FY26 versus 17.5mt in FY25. It targets 19.4-19.8mt in FY27 supported by commissioning of debottlenecking projects at various plants.

Debt down 8% QoQ; growth capex to start FY27 onwards

Gross debt (ex-Ind AS) fell INR23.14bn QoQ to INR264.3bn (end-Q2FY26). Capex was INR17.5bn; management guided INR75bn/100bn-plus for FY26/FY27. Tendering process has started to expand the IISCO plant by 4.5mt at estimated ~INR330bn capex; ordering from Dec-25E. Commissioning of plant is expected by end-FY29E. Net debt to rise from FY27 (FY27E net debt/EBITDA of 2.2x), but stay under control.

Earnings to recover Q4FY26 onwards

We expect steel prices to recover in Dec-25 with uptick in steel demand. With capex picking up in FY27E, we expect net debt/EBITDA to stay 2.2-2.5x over FY26-28E. After recent run-up, the stock has less room for further upside; maintain 'HOLD'.

Financials

Year to March (INR mn)	Q2FY26	Q2FY25	% Change	Q1FY26	% Change
Net Revenue	2,67,039	2,46,747	8.2	2,59,215	3.0
EBITDA	25,256	29,043	(13.0)	27,645	(8.6)
Adjusted Profit	7,652	8,335	(8.2)	6,855	11.6
Diluted EPS (INR)	1.9	2.0	(8.2)	1.7	11.6

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Financial Statements

Income Statement (INR mn)

Year to March	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Total operating income	10,24,782	10,90,288	11,30,968	11,69,350
Gross profit	5,34,332	5,42,334	5,71,689	5,93,800
Employee costs	1,16,585	1,16,304	1,18,630	1,22,189
Other expenses	1,78,192	1,71,496	1,73,765	1,80,050
EBITDA	1,06,294	1,16,333	1,43,934	1,51,566
Depreciation	56,496	58,996	61,996	64,996
Less: Interest expense	27,928	20,728	24,287	25,587
Add: Other income	11,344	11,000	11,500	11,500
Profit before tax	33,215	47,609	69,151	72,483
Prov for tax	8,609	11,056	17,288	18,121
Less: Other adjustment	(3,126)	(3,384)	0	0
Reported profit	21,480	33,169	51,863	54,362
Less: Excp.item (net)	3,126	3,384	0	0
Adjusted profit	24,606	36,553	51,863	54,362
Diluted shares o/s	4,131	4,131	4,131	4,131
Adjusted diluted EPS	6	9	13	13
DPS (INR)	1.6	2.4	3.8	3.9
Tax rate (%)	25.9	23.2	25.0	25.0

Balance Sheet (INR mn)

Year to March	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Share capital	41,305	41,305	41,305	41,305
Reserves	5,15,259	5,41,861	5,78,166	6,16,219
Shareholders funds	5,56,564	5,83,167	6,19,471	6,57,524
Minority interest	0	0	0	0
Borrowings	3,63,645	3,63,645	3,83,645	4,03,645
Trade payables	1,04,986	1,48,670	1,54,242	1,59,500
Other liabs & prov	1,40,522	1,44,599	1,47,036	1,49,336
Total liabilities	13,29,181	14,10,380	14,78,781	15,48,248
Net block	7,18,615	6,89,619	6,57,624	6,22,628
Intangible assets	14,257	14,257	14,257	14,257
Capital WIP	72,062	1,17,062	1,97,062	2,97,062
Total fixed assets	8,04,934	8,20,938	8,68,943	9,33,947
Non current inv	17,599	17,599	17,599	17,599
Cash/cash equivalent	9,050	67,420	70,561	58,742
Sundry debtors	75,572	74,335	77,121	79,750
Loans & advances	226	226	226	226
Other assets	3,78,004	3,86,066	4,00,535	4,14,188
Total assets	13,29,181	14,10,380	14,78,781	15,48,248

Important Ratios (%)

FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
3,54,595	2,96,225	3,13,084	3,44,903
10.4	10.7	12.7	13.0
2.4	3.4	4.6	4.6
(2.7)	6.7	3.7	3.4
(4.5)	9.4	23.7	5.3
(31.2)	48.6	41.9	4.8
	3,54,595 10.4 2.4 (2.7) (4.5)	3,54,595 2,96,225 10.4 10.7 2.4 3.4 (2.7) 6.7 (4.5) 9.4	3,54,595 2,96,225 3,13,084 10.4 10.7 12.7 2.4 3.4 4.6 (2.7) 6.7 3.7 (4.5) 9.4 23.7

Free Cash Flow (INR mn)

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Year to March	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Reported pbt	30,088	47,609	69,151	72,483
Add: Depreciation	56,496	58,996	61,996	64,996
Interest (net of tax)	22,144	0	0	0
Others	(696)	0	0	0
Less: Changes in WC	(4,418)	47,772	(5,159)	(4,868)
Operating cash flow	97,240	1,43,321	1,08,700	1,14,490
Less: Capex	(64,275)	(75,000)	(1,10,000)	(1,30,000)
Free cash flow	32,964	68,321	(1,300)	(15,510)

Assumptions (%)

Year to March	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
GDP (YoY %)	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.2
Repo rate (%)	6.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
USD/INR (average)	84.5	87.5	87.5	87.5
Steel sales volume (mt)	17.9	19.5	19.7	20.4
Blended realis. (INR/t)	57,276	55,576	57,076	57,076
Coking coal cost/t (INR)	20,280	17,500	17,500	17,500
EBITDA/t (INR)	5,942	5,963	7,303	7,430
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	3.3	2.5	2.2	2.3

Key Ratios

Year to March	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
RoE (%)	3.9	5.8	8.6	8.5
RoCE (%)	6.7	7.3	9.6	9.5
Inventory days	126	114	112	113
Receivable days	28	25	24	24
Payable days	46	42	49	49
Working cap (% sales)	26.9	21.5	21.5	21.6
Gross debt/equity (x)	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Net debt/equity (x)	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Interest coverage (x)	1.8	2.8	3.4	3.4

Valuation Metrics

Year to March	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Diluted P/E (x)	22.8	15.4	10.8	10.3
Price/BV (x)	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9
EV/EBITDA (x)	8.6	7.4	6.1	6.0
Dividend yield (%)	1.2	1.8	2.8	2.9

Source: Company and Nuvama estimates

Valuation Drivers

Year to March	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
EPS growth (%)	(31.2)	48.6	41.9	4.8
RoE (%)	3.9	5.8	8.6	8.5
EBITDA growth (%)	(4.5)	9.4	23.7	5.3
Payout ratio (%)	30.8	30.0	30.0	30.0

SAIL

Exhibit 1: Standalone financial snapshot

Year to March (INR mn)	Q2FY26	Q2FY25	YoY (%)	Q1FY26	QoQ (%)	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Net revenues	2,67,039	2,46,747	8.2	2,59,215	3.0	10,85,288	11,25,968	11,64,350
Raw material	1,33,728	1,15,637	15.6	1,23,495	8.3	5,47,954	5,59,279	5,75,550
Staff cost	29,388	28,717	2.3	29,440	(0.2)	1,16,304	1,18,630	1,22,189
Other expenditure	78,668	73,351	7.2	78,634	0.0	1,71,496	1,73,765	1,80,050
Total expenditure	2,41,783	2,17,705	11.1	2,31,569	4.4	9,73,955	9,87,034	10,17,785
EBITDA	25,256	29,043	(13.0)	27,645	(8.6)	1,16,333	1,43,934	1,51,566
Adjusted EBITDA	25,256	12,673	99.3	25,910	(2.5)	1,16,333	1,43,934	1,51,566
Depreciation	14,530	13,037	11.5	14,410	0.8	58,996	61,996	64,996
Interest	4,843	7,575	(36.1)	5,946	(18.6)	20,728	24,287	25,587
Other income	3,030	2,695	12.4	1,609	88.4	11,000	11,500	11,500
Profit Before Tax	8,913	11,126	(19.9)	8,898	0.2	47,609	69,151	72,483
Provision for Tax	1,261	2,790	(54.8)	2,043	(38.3)	11,056	17,288	18,121
Reported net profit	4,268	8,335	(48.8)	6,855	(37.7)	33,169	51,863	54,362
Adjusted Profit	7,652	8,335	(8.2)	6,855	11.6	36,553	51,863	54,362
Weighted avg shares	4,131	4,131		4,131	0.0	4,131	4,131	4,131
EPS (INR)	1.9	2.0	(8.2)	1.7	11.6	8.8	12.6	13.2
as % of net revenues								
Raw material	50.1	46.9		47.6		50.5	49.7	49.4
Staff costs	11.0	11.6		11.4		10.7	10.5	10.5
Other expenses	29.5	29.7		30.3		15.8	15.4	15.5
EBITDA	9.5	5.1		10.0		10.7	12.8	13.0
Reported net profit	1.6	3.4		2.6		3.1	4.6	4.7
Tax rate	14.1	25.1		23.0		23.2	25.0	25.0

Source: Company, Nuvama Research

Exhibit 2: Per tonne analysis

Particulars	Q2FY25	Q3FY25	Q4FY25	Q1FY26	Q2FY26	QoQ(%)	YoY(%)
Volume (mt)	4.10	4.45	5.33	4.55	4.91	8.0	19.8
Derived steel realisation(INR/t)	56,190	55,033	53,599	56,589	54,365	-3.9	-3.2
Cost (INR/t)							
Raw material	28,204	27,818	26,246	24,746	25,458	2.9	-9.7
Staff cost	7,004	6,114	6,615	7,043	6,383	-9.4	-8.9
Other expenses	17,891	15,967	15,898	18,812	17,087	-9.2	-4.5
Adjusted EBITDA/t	3,091	4,551	6,332	5,695	5,142	-10.0	66.0

Source: Company, Nuvama Research

Q2FY26 conference call takeaways

Guidance

- Average steel realisation for longs was INR48,800/t in Q2FY26 (down INR5,700/t QoQ) while flat steel price was down INR1,700/t QoQ at INR48,700/t, translating to blended average realisation of INR48,800/t in Q2FY26 (down ~INR2,900/t QoQ). Management informed that October realisation for flats is INR46,600 (down INR2,200/t from Q1FY26 average) while longs' realisation rose INR1,140/t to INR49,940/t. Management expects steel prices to improve from mid-to-end of Nov-25.
- During Q2FY26, average blended coking coal cost increased INR500/t QoQ (versus guidance of flat QoQ) to ~INR17,400/t. For Oct-25, blended coking coal cost has remained flat compared with Q2FY26 average and imported coking coal cost stood at INR18,150/t. Management expects cost to increase by INR600–700/t in Q3FY26 to INR18,000–18,100/t.
- Management has maintained FY26 sales volume (ex-trading volume of NMDC Steel) guidance of 18.5mt for FY26 versus 17.5mt in FY25. It targets 19.4–19.8mt in FY27 supported by commissioning of debottlenecking projects at various plants.
- VAP mix improved from 54.5% in Q1FY26 to 57% in Q2FY26. It targets to increase to 60%-plus in FY27.

Debt and capex

- Capex in Q2FY26 was INR17.3bn; SAIL guided for FY26 capex of >INR75bn and FY27 of >INR100bn.
- SAIL has started the tendering process for expansion of IISCO capacity by 4.5mtpa at an estimated capex of ~INR330bn. The ordering process is likely to start Dec-25 onwards and the plant is expected to complete by end-FY29E.
 Capex will be funded 50:50 through internal accruals and debt.
- Debt: Reduced by INR23.1bn QoQ to INR264.3bn (ex-Ind AS adjusted).

Others

- The Scrap and by-product sales increased by 31% QoQ to INR11.4bn (vs INR8.7bn in Q1FY26). EBITDA contribution could be 20-25% of the by-product sale. Management indicated by product sale can increase further as it will reduce scrap and by product inventrory through auctions in H2FY26.
- It has 1.9mt finished steel inventory at Q2FY26-end (1.7mt at Q1FY26) and 0.7mt semi-finished steel inventory (1.3mt at Q1FY26). Total inventory reduced to 2.69mt from 2.72mt
- During Q2FY26, it sold 0.3mt of steel (trade) of NMDC steel and recorded revenue of ~INR15bn.
- Rail price revision benefit of FY24 supplies is fully accounted as on Q1FY26.
 Currently, Government is in process to finalise realisation for FY25 which shall accrue adjustment in due course.
- It sold 0.3mt iron ore from Bolani mine in Odisha. Currently SAIL is conducting auction for dump fines inventory of 33mt. Besides, it is dispatching dump fines to various sintering plants and targets sale of 0.7-0.8mt/year.
- Next wage revision for non-executives is due on 1st January 2027

Exhibit 3: Key assumptions

Particulars	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Average exchange rate (USD/INR)	82.8	84.5	87.5	87.5	87.5
Steel sales volume (mt)	17.1	17.9	19.5	19.7	20.4
Blended realisation (INR/t)	61,010	57,276	55,576	57,076	57,076
Coking coal cost/t (INR)	24,900	20,280	17,500	17,500	17,500
EBITDA/t (INR)	6,495	5,942	5,963	7,303	7,430
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	3.2	3.3	2.5	2.2	2.3

Source: Company, Nuvama Research

Exhibit 4: Changes in estimates

Particulars		Old		New		Change (%)	
INR mn	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	
Sales volume(mt)	19.0	19.2	19.5	19.7	2.6	2.6	
Blended realisation (INR/t)	57,376	57,376	55,576	57,076	-3.1	-0.5	
EBITDA/tonne (INR)	6,691	7,554	5,963	7,303	-10.9	-3.3	
Revenue	10,96,718	11,08,193	10,90,288	11,30,968	-0.6	2.1	
EBITDA	1,27,203	1,45,107	1,16,333	1,43,934	-8.5	-0.8	
PAT	39,121	50,127	36,553	51,863	-6.6	3.5	
EPS (INR/share)	9.5	12.1	8.8	12.6	-6.8	3.8	

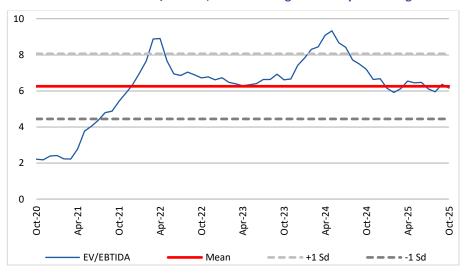
Source: Company, Nuvama Research

Exhibit 5: Valuation

Particulars (INR mn)	FY28E
EBITDA	1,51,566
Multiple (x)	6.0
Enterprise value	9,09,393
Average net debt	3,28,994
Implied arket-cap	5,80,400
No. of shares(mn)	4,131
Target price (per share)	141

Source: Company, Nuvama Research

Exhibit 6: On 1Y forward EV/EBITDA, SAIL is trading near five-year average



Source: Company, Nuvama Research

Company Description

SAIL is one of the largest steel producing companies in India with installed capacity of ~20mtpa. It is 100% integrated in iron ore but procures coking coal from Coal India (10-15%) and imports. The company manufactures flat products such as hot rolled (HR) coils, HR plates, cold rolled (CR) coils, pipes and electric sheets, and long products such as thermo mechanically treated (TMT) bars and wire rods. SAIL also offers rails, structurals, merchant products, electric resistance welded pipes, spiral welded pipes and silicon steel sheets. It operates and owns over five integrated steel plants at Bhilai, Durgapur, Bokaro, Rourkela and Burnpur, and approximately three special steel plants at Salem, Durgapur and Bhadravati. SAIL's Chandrapur FerroAlloy Plant (CFP) produces ferro-alloys. It also has SAIL Refractory Unit (SRU) at Bokaro.

Investment Theme

The removal of 13% export rebate by China in CY21, China's supply discipline since CY20 which doesn't flood world steel market, world's focus on decarbonisation, thereby increasing cost etc are some of structural changes which global steel industry witnessed since CY20. We expect EBITDA/t for SAIL to average between INR6-7.5k/t in FY26 & FY27 (FY13-22 average was INR4,430/t) which is primarily due to higher gross margins (higher than historical average) and higher volume. The capex on next phase of expansion to accrue from H2FY26 onwards which limits any deleveraging

Key Risks

- Global recession leading to lower demand in India, thereby impacting volume
- Higher-than-expected fall in steel prices
- Continuous fall in real estate demand and lower infra demand in China
- Higher steel exports from China
- Debt increase amid expansion

Additional Data

Management

Chairman	Shri AmarenduPrakash	
Director (Finance)	Dr Ashok Panda	
Director (Technical projects and Raw material)	Mr Manish Raj Gupta	
Auditor	V.K. Dhingra & Co, A.K. Sabat & Co, Tej Raj & Pal, S. Jaykishan	

Recent Company Research

Date	Title	Price	Reco
28-Jul-25	Inventory valuation and higher opex hurt; Result Update	131	Hold
29-May-25	Margins to move up; debt under control; Result Update	129	Buy
12-Feb-25	Margins to improve further; Result Update	106	Buy

Holdings – Top 10*

	% Holding		% Holding
Mirae Asset	1.64	HDFC AMC	0.36
Vanguard group	1.41	Edelweiss AMC	0.35
SBI Funds	1.36	Nippon AMC	0.37
Dimesntional Fu	0.38	ICICI Pru MF	0.32
Kotak AMC	0.39	TATA AMC	0.18

^{*}Latest public data

Recent Sector Research

Date	Name of Co./Sector	Title
29-Oct-25	Coal India	Awaiting volume growth; Result Update
29-Oct-25	Jindal Steel	Weak prices and high CoP hit earnings; Result Update
18-Oct-25	JSW Steel	Resilient earnings amid adverse macro; Result Update

Rating and Daily Volume Interpretation



Source: Bloomberg, Nuvama research

Rating Rationale & Distribution: Nuvama Research

nating nationale & Distribution Natural Research					
Rating	Expected absolute returns over 12 months	Rating Distribution			
Buy	15%	205			
Hold	<15% and >-5%	68			
Reduce	<-5%	37			



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