

Happiest Minds: Steady quarter with stable margin, execution remains intact; retain BUY

Rating: Buy

Target Price (12-mth): Rs.658

Share Price: Rs.515

- Happiest Minds delivered a steady performance in Q2 FY26, sustaining consistent execution and operational discipline amid cautious macro. Revenue growth was broadly stable (up 2.3% q/q in CC terms), led by Hi-Tech (13.4% of revenue; up 5.9% q/q), Retail (up 9.8%; 8.9% q/q) and Healthcare (16.3%; 6.4% q/q), partly offset by softness in EdTech (15.3%; down 3.9% q/q), owing to ongoing GenAI-led automation and data modernisation programmes. GenAI horizontal (~3%; up 18% q/q) continued to scale rapidly with 22 reusable use cases representing a potential revenue opportunity of ~\$15m over the next few years. Net New Sales unit (operating at an ARR of ~\$20m) along with 30 new clients addition in H1 (collective pipeline of \$50-60m over the next 3-4 years), reflects tangible traction in its new business model. Management expects stronger performance in H2, as several deals in IMSS and BFSI (deferred from Q2) are scheduled to ramp up. Key Monitorable: Edu-tech business growth, BFSI growth driven by Artha (part of Pure acquisition) in 2HFY26, deferred deals in Q2 translating to revenue.**
- Valuation:** We expect revenue/adj. PAT to clock 7.4/13.8% CAGR over FY26-28 and see EBIT margin at 14.5% by FY28 (vs. 13.5% in FY26e). At CMP, the stock trades at 24.9x/22x FY27/28e P/E, with an adj. FY26-28e EPS CAGR of 13.8%. We maintain a BUY rating on the stock with a TP of Rs658, implying ~28% upside.

Financials

| Key financials (YE Mar) | FY24 | FY25 | FY26e | FY27e | FY28e |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Sales (Rsm) | 16,247 | 20,608 | 22,944 | 24,772 | 26,667 |
| Net profit (Rsm) | 2,484 | 1,847 | 2,132 | 2,528 | 3,100 |
| Adj. EPS (Rs) | 17.6 | 17.4 | 18.1 | 20.7 | 23.4 |
| Adj. PE (x) | 29.2 | 29.8 | 28.5 | 24.9 | 22.0 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 22.6 | 21.4 | 19.1 | 17.4 | 16.1 |
| PBV (x) | 5.3 | 5.0 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 3.9 |
| RoE (%) | 21.4 | 12.1 | 13.1 | 14.4 | 16.1 |
| RoCE (%) | 11.7 | 7.7 | 7.6 | 8.2 | 9.0 |
| Dividend yield (%) | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.6 |
| Net debt/equity (x) | -0.6 | -0.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.2 |

Adj PAT - Reported PAT adjusted for Amortization and unwinding interest which are non-cash items related to acquisitions.

| Key data | HAPPSTMN IN |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 52-week high / low | Rs795 / 487 |
| Sensex / Nifty | 84997 / 26054 |
| Market cap | Rs77bn |
| Shares outstanding | 150m |

| Shareholding (%) | Sep'25 | Jun'25 | Mar'25 |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Promoters | 44.2 | 44.2 | 44.2 |
| - of which, Pledged | | | |
| Free float | 55.8 | 55.8 | 55.8 |
| - Foreign institutions | 5.4 | 5.3 | 5.0 |
| - Domestic institution | 10.2 | 10.6 | 10.6 |
| - Public | 40.2 | 39.9 | 40.2 |

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Apoorva Khandelwal, Research Associate

Harshita Parakh, Research Associate

No material change in estimates: FY26 performance to benefit from right shifting of deals and lumpy BFSI license revenue in H2 FY26

| Happiest Minds (Rs.m) | FY26 | | | FY27 | | | FY28 | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--------|----------|
| | New | Old | % Change | New | Old | % Change | New | Old | % Change |
| Revenue (\$m) | 262 | 264 | (0.6) | 281 | 285 | (1.4) | 303 | 307 | (1.4) |
| Revenue (Rs.m) | 22,944 | 22,894 | 0.2 | 24,772 | 24,886 | (0.5) | 26,667 | 26,803 | (0.5) |
| EBITDA | 3,986 | 3,853 | 3.5 | 4,353 | 4,389 | (0.8) | 4,720 | 4,796 | (1.6) |
| EBITDA Margin % | 17.4% | 16.8% | 54 bps | 17.6% | 17.6% | (7) bps | 17.7% | 17.9% | (19) bps |
| EBIT | 3,094 | 2,959 | 4.5 | 3,460 | 3,497 | (1.0) | 3,872 | 3,949 | (1.9) |
| EBIT Margin % | 13.5% | 12.9% | 56 bps | 14.0% | 14.1% | (8) bps | 14.5% | 14.7% | (21) bps |
| PBT | 3,032 | 2,872 | 5.6 | 3,564 | 3,660 | (2.6) | 4,169 | 4,173 | (0.1) |
| Net PAT | 2,132 | 2,013 | 5.9 | 2,528 | 2,599 | (2.7) | 3,100 | 3,101 | (0.0) |

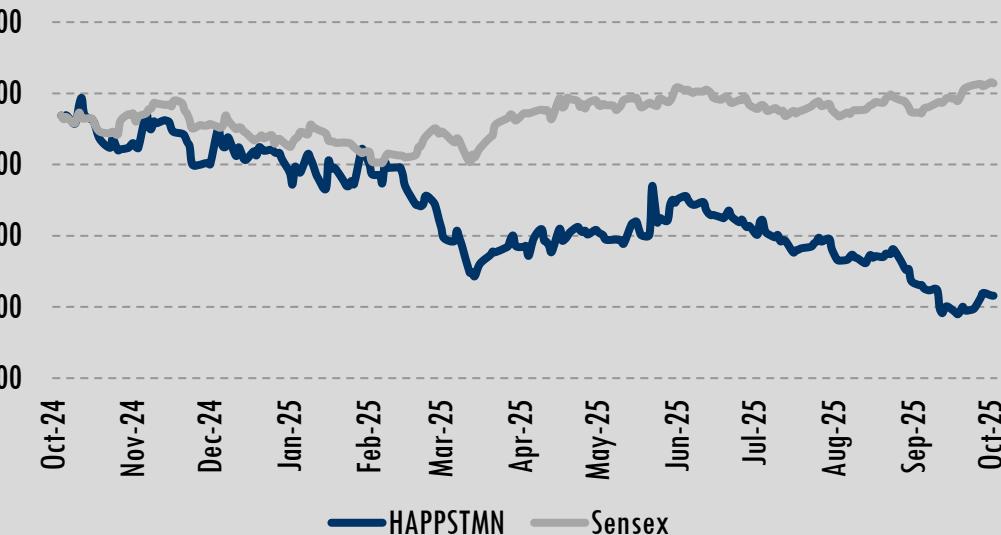
Key estimates and changes:

- FY27e/FY28e revenue/EPS estimates increased / (decreased) by (0.5)/(2.7)% and (0.5)/0.0%.
- A 100bps expansion in EBIT margin from FY26-28e from 180bps earlier.

Happiest Minds: GenAI traction and margin rebound offer solace...

- CC revenue up 2.3% q/q in Q2 FY26, led by Hi-Tech (up 5.9% q/q), Retail (up 8.9% q/q), and Healthcare (up 6.4% q/q); offset by EdTech (down 3.9% q/q).
 - Management expects BFSI to rebound in H2, as the deferred banking platform deals and APAC deals ramp-up.
- GenAI Business Services (GBS) up ~18% q/q (2.7% of revenue), with multiple proof-of-concept pilots scaling-up to full production.
 - It added 30 clients in H1, contributing \$9m revenue and opening a \$50-60m pipeline over 3-4 years.
- With sharp focus on client scaling, fixed-price delivery quality and vertical traction under the leadership of Joseph Anantharaju, utilization improved to 3-year high of 80.7% and attrition fell to 17.4%.
- It added logos across BFSI, Healthcare, Retail and Hi-Tech (maintained 93% repeat business).
 - Key wins: GenAI automation for a US bank, data engineering for a European healthcare client, and digital modernisation for a global logistics firm.
- Outlook: Management reiterated double-digit CC growth and 20-22% EBITDA margin in FY26. It expects H2 momentum led by deferred deals and GenAI billing.
- **Maintaining a BUY.** We expect 7.4/13.8% revenue/adj. PAT CAGR over FY26-28e with 14.5% EBIT margin by FY28e. The stock trades at 24.9x/ 22x FY27e/28e adj. P/E.

Relative-price performance



Price movement



Q2 results snapshot : Steady Execution, Scaling GenAI, New Client Additions - Setting the Stage for a Stronger H2

| | Q3FY24 | Q4FY24 | Q1FY25 | Q2FY25 | Q3FY25 | Q4FY25 | Q1FY26 | Q2FY26 | Q/Q % | Y/Y % |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| Revenue (\$ m) | 49 | 50 | 56 | 62 | 63 | 63 | 64 | 65 | 1.2% | 4.4% |
| Growth Y/Y % | 9% | 9% | 17% | 27% | 27% | 26% | 16% | 4% | | |
| Revenue (Rs m) | 4,099 | 4,173 | 4,638 | 5,216 | 5,308 | 5,446 | 5,499 | 5,736 | 4.3% | 10.0% |
| Effec. exchange rate | 83 | 83 | 84 | 84 | 85 | 87 | 85 | 88 | 3.1% | 5.4% |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employees (EoP) | 5,246 | 5,168 | 6,599 | 6,580 | 6,630 | 6,632 | 6,523 | 6,554 | 0.5% | -0.4% |
| Rev. prod. (\$ '000/employee) | 9.4 | 9.6 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.8 | 10.0 | 1.8% | 5.2% |
| Utilisation % (IT Services) | 76.7% | 75.1% | 78.2% | 76.3% | 78.0% | 77.4% | 78.9% | 80.7% | 180 bps | 440 bps |
| Attrition LTM | 14.1% | 13.0% | 13.5% | 14.4% | 15.3% | 16.6% | 18.2% | 17.4% | -80 bps | 300 bps |
| CoR (excl. D&A) | (2,521) | (2,561) | (2,861) | (3,357) | (3,369) | (3,528) | (3,483) | (3,574) | 2.6% | 6.5% |
| As % of revenue | -61.5% | -61.4% | -61.7% | -64.3% | -63.5% | -64.8% | -63.3% | -62.3% | 104 bps | 204 bps |
| SG&A | (769) | (782) | (929) | (942) | (1,000) | (1,079) | (1,075) | (1,175) | 9.3% | 24.8% |
| As % of revenue. | -18.7% | -18.7% | -20.0% | -18.1% | -18.8% | -19.8% | -19.6% | -20.5% | -94 bps | -244 bps |
| EBITDA | 809 | 830 | 848 | 918 | 939 | 839 | 940 | 986 | 4.9% | 7.5% |
| EBITDA margins % | 19.7% | 19.9% | 18.3% | 17.6% | 17.7% | 15.4% | 17.1% | 17.2% | 10 bps | -40 bps |
| EBIT | 661 | 683 | 628 | 687 | 729 | 614 | 717 | 765 | 6.7% | 11.3% |
| EBIT margins % | 16.1% | 16.4% | 13.5% | 13.2% | 13.7% | 11.3% | 13.0% | 13.3% | 30 bps | 16 bps |
| Other income (excl. forex) | 243 | 252 | 254 | 270 | 230 | 260 | 300 | 216 | -28.0% | -20.1% |
| Interest expenses | (107) | (103) | (198) | (280) | (269) | (247) | (248) | (254) | 2.4% | -9.2% |
| PBT | 797 | 832 | 684 | 677 | 690 | 626 | 769 | 727 | -5.5% | 7.3% |
| PBT margins % | 19% | 20% | 15% | 13% | 13% | 11% | 14% | 13% | -131 bps | -31 bps |
| Taxes | (211) | (242) | (174) | (182) | (188) | (164) | (197) | (186) | -5.6% | 2.4% |
| ETR % | -26.5% | -29.1% | -25.4% | -26.9% | -27.3% | -26.2% | -25.7% | -25.7% | 3 bps | 122 bps |
| Net income | 596 | 720 | 510 | 495 | 501 | 340 | 571 | 540 | -5.4% | 9.1% |
| Net margins % | 15% | 17% | 11% | 9% | 9% | 6% | 10% | 9% | -97 bps | -7 bps |
| Adj. EPS (Rs) | - | - | 4.9 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 3.8 | 4.6 | 4.4 | -4.5% | -0.6% |

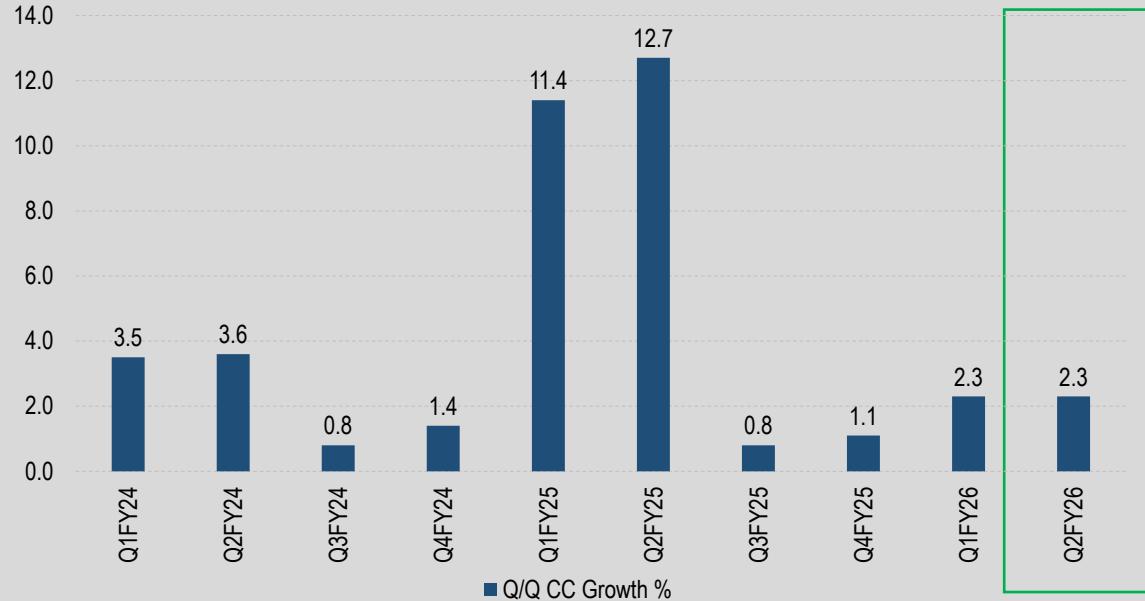
Management Commentary

- Management continues to emphasise execution quality and sustainable profitability over short-term growth.
- Revamped sales and new client acquisition engine continues to deliver encouraging results.
- EBITDA margin stood at 17.2% in the guided range, aided by higher utilisation, forex tailwind and cost efficiency that offset the impact of annual wage hike.
- It added 30 clients in H1 FY26, contributing ~\$9m to revenue and opening \$50-60m opportunity pipeline for the next 2-3 years.
- Over half of these new clients have already expanded into multiple projects, validating its 'land-and-expand' strategy and focus on deepening account relationships under the new leadership.

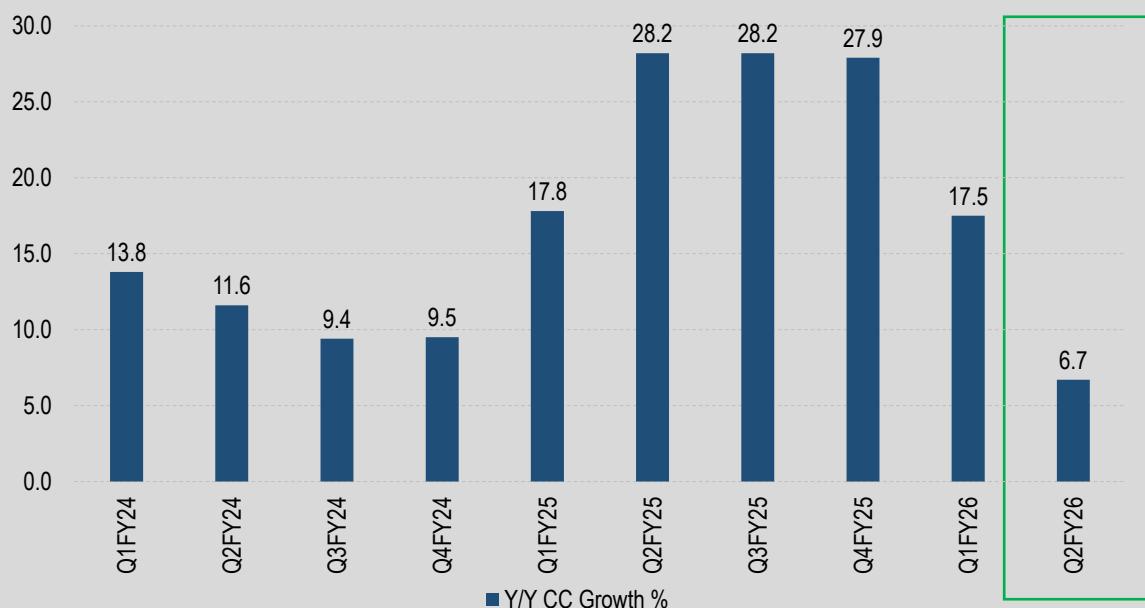
Guidance & Outlook

- Management reiterated confidence in achieving double-digit cc revenue growth and maintaining 20-22% EBITDA margin in FY26.
- The outlook for H2FY26 remains stronger, aided by ramp-up of deferred BFSI and IMSS programmes, improving demand visibility in the US and steady traction across AI-led transformation deals.

Steady Execution; Flattish Growth Amid Demand Moderation

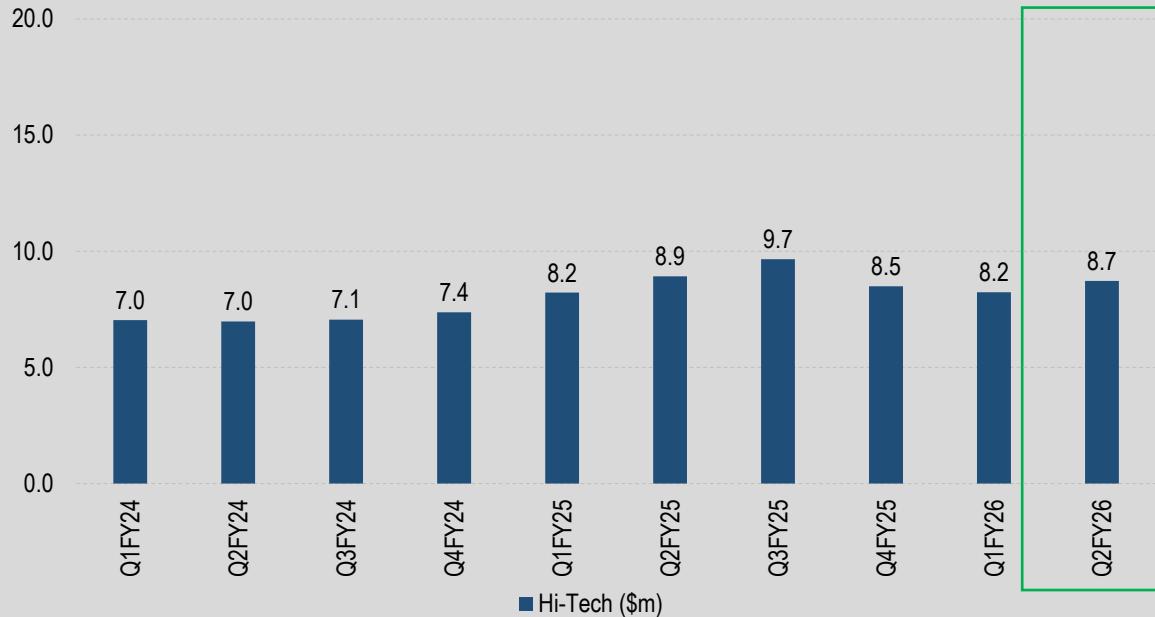


- The company delivered a steady Q2 FY26 with 2.3% q/q growth in CC revenue to \$65.1m, Led by Hi-Tech (13.4% of revenue, +5.9% q/q), Retail (9.8%, +8.9% q/q), and Healthcare (16.3%, +6.4% q/q), reflecting consistent execution and margin discipline.
- While revenue growth was encouraging amid a soft macro backdrop, consistent execution, margin resilience, healthy deal wins and expanding GenAI traction reinforce business stability.

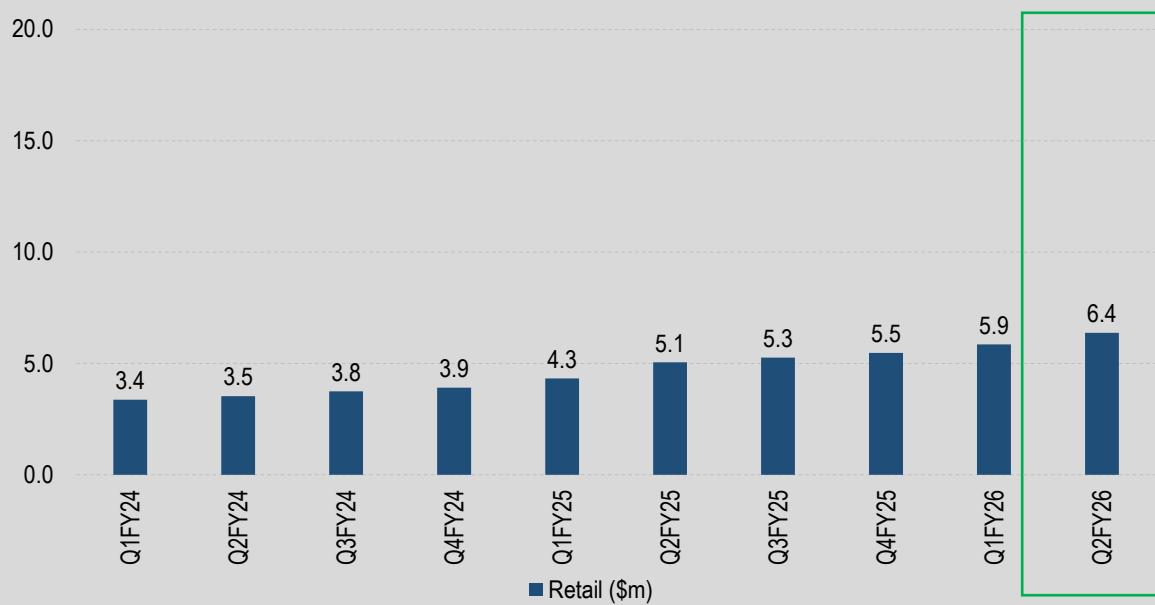


- Management maintained double-digit growth outlook for FY26 with focus on margin discipline and productivity.

Hitech & Retail drive growth...

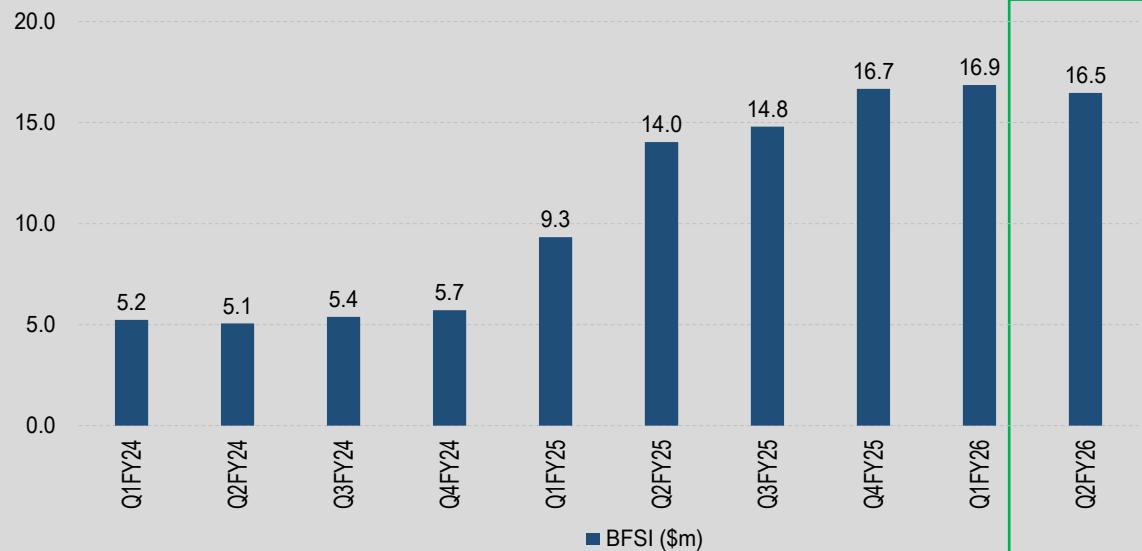


- Hi-Tech (13.4% of revenue) grew 5.9% q/q, driven by strong demand in product engineering, cloud modernisation and GenAI-led platform transformation.
- Momentum was aided by expanding engagement with digital-native clients and hyperscaler-aligned technology partners.

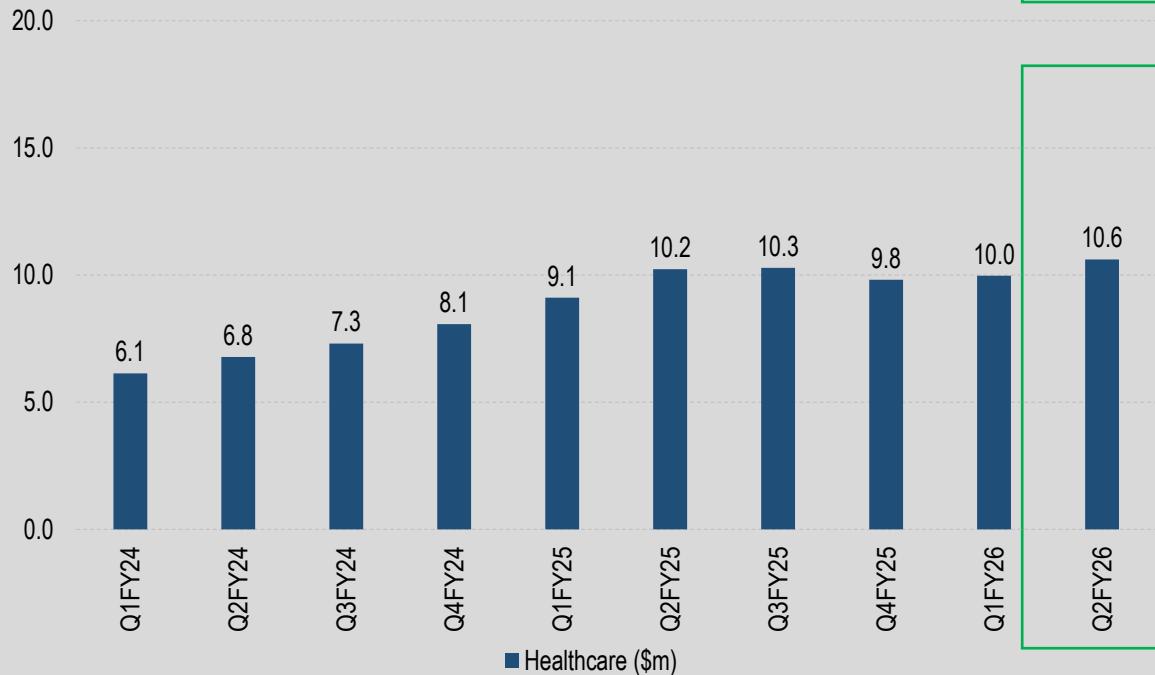


- Retail & CPG (9.8% of revenue) delivered a strong ~9% q/q growth, while Industry 4.0 adoption and GenAI-led ad-tech optimisation also drove demand across manufacturing and high-tech clients.
- Growth was aided by new European deal ramp-ups, continued focus on GenAI-powered retail insights, while automation and connected commerce initiatives strengthened momentum further.

BFSI soft due to right shifting, Healthcare strong...

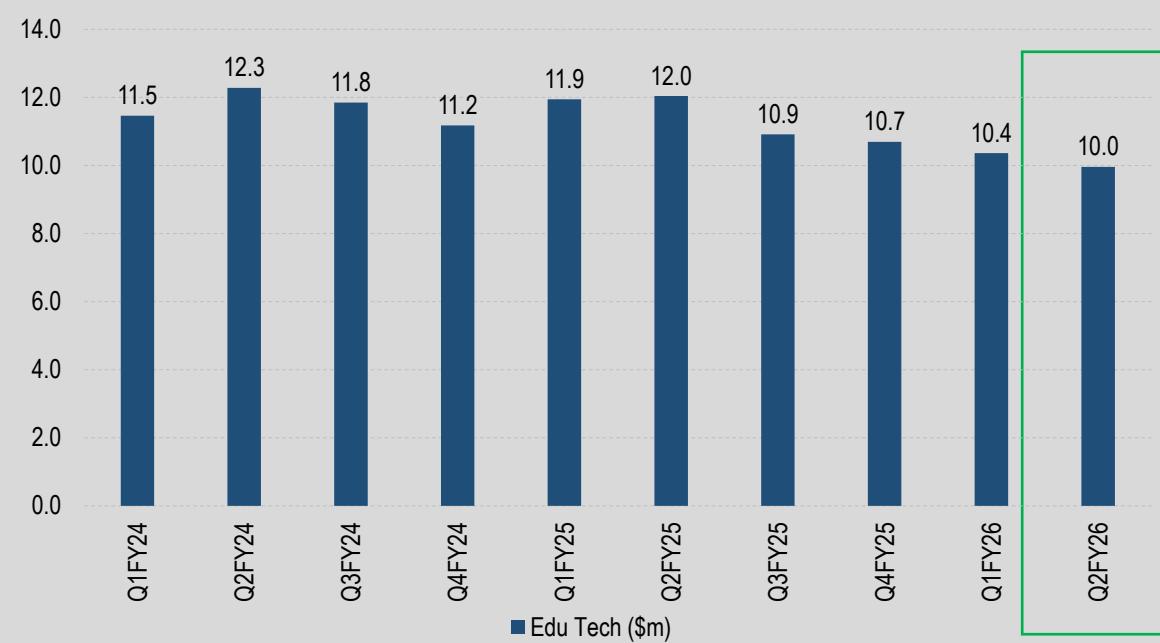
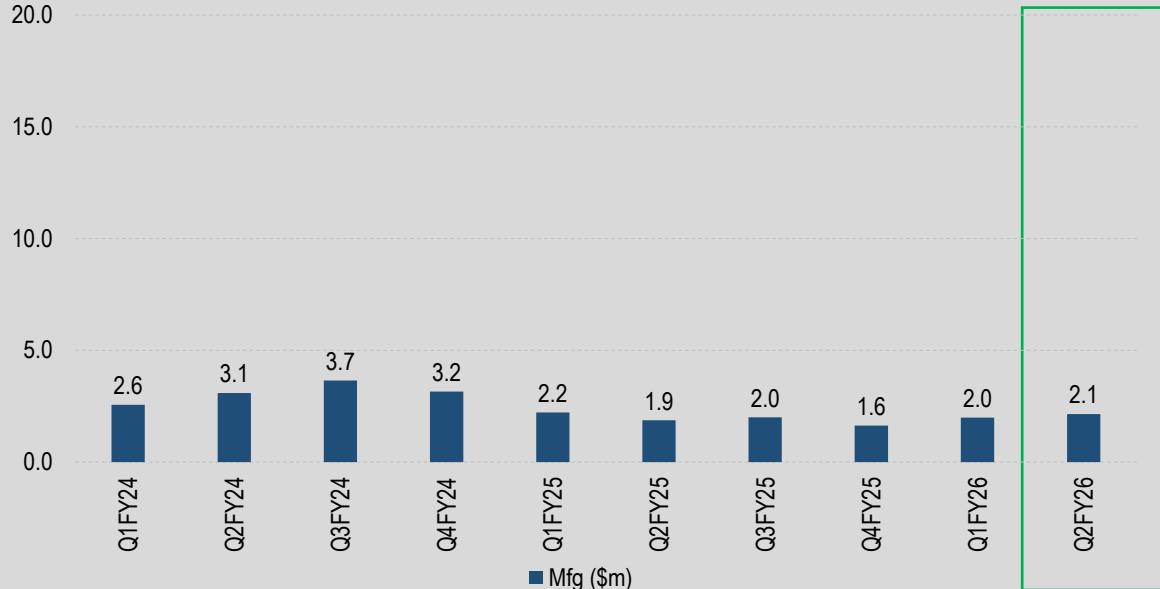


- BFSI (26% of revenue) fell 2.3% q/q (up 17.3% y/y), driven by slippage of Artha banking platform deals expected to close during the quarter, which are now slated to ramp-up in Q3-Q4.
- A large APAC banking customer temporarily reduced project activity, due to budgetary constraints, with full engagement likely to resume once new budgets are approved, supporting a rebound in H2.



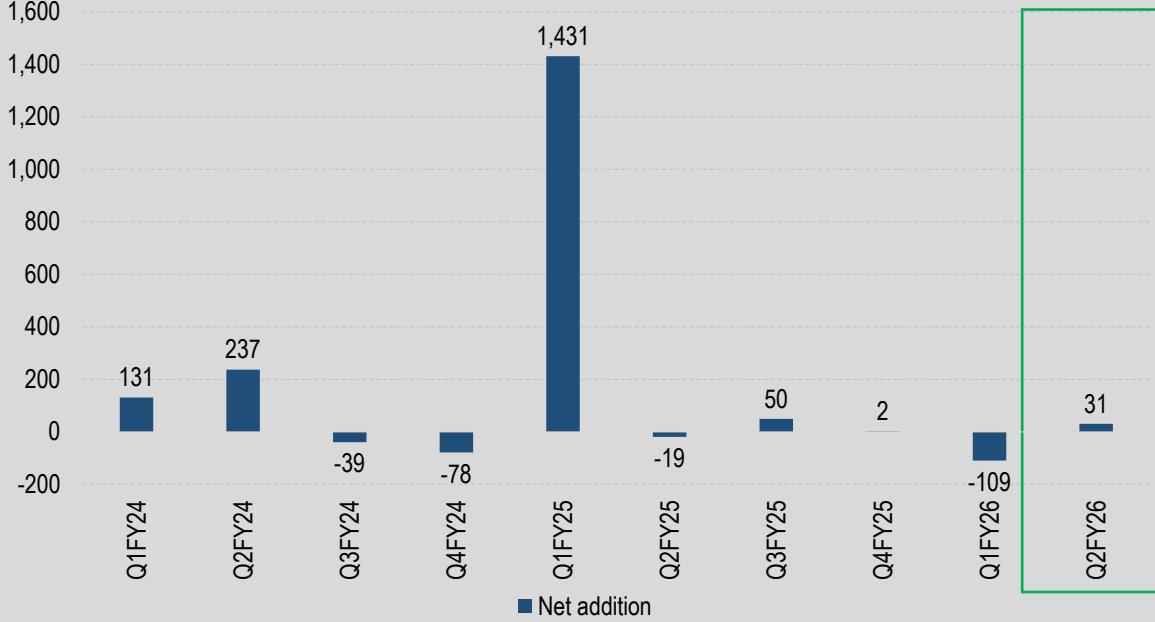
- **Healthcare – key growth catalyst:** Healthcare (16.3% of revenue vs, 15.5% in Q1) up 6.4% q/q and 3.7% y/y. Strong pipeline supported by demand in digital engineering, analytics and AI-led automation solutions.
- Management highlighted expanding engagements with existing clients and new opportunities in GenAI-driven clinical data management and patient experience platforms, positioning the vertical for sustained growth in the coming quarters.

Manufacturing seeing traction and Edu-tech decline sequentially

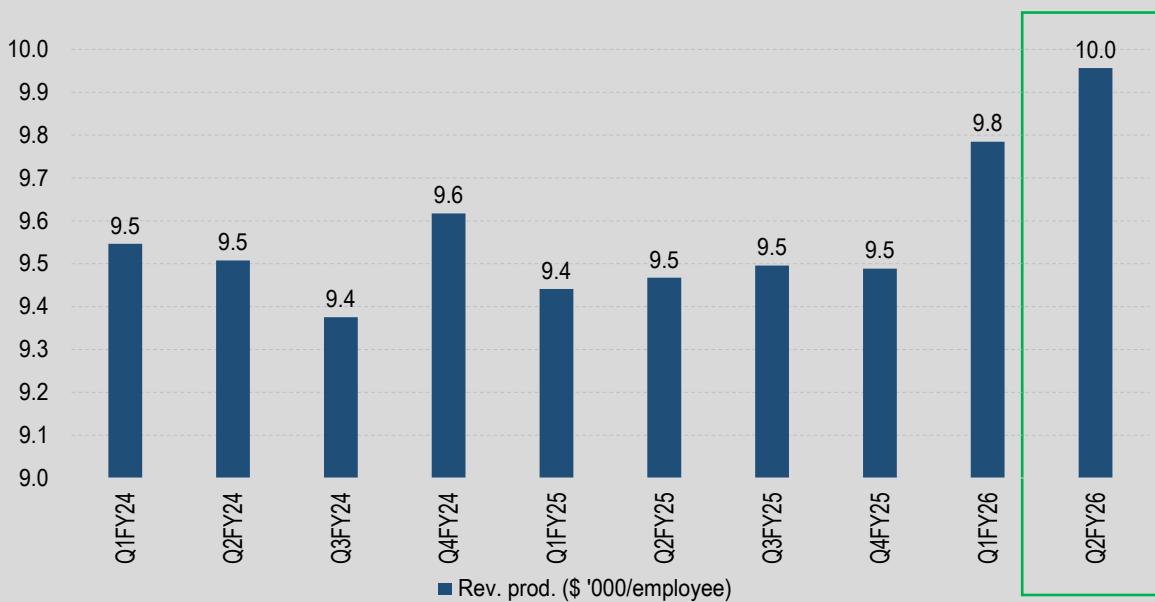


- Manufacturing (3.3% of revenue) saw healthy sequential growth, aided by continued investment in Industry 4.0, connected operations and smart factory initiatives.
- The company sees rising adoption of AI and IoT-led automation across engineering and supply chain functions.
- Edu-tech soft: Edu Tech (15.3% of revenue) was down 3.9% q/q and 17.3% y/y. Management indicated the segment is expected to bottom out by Q3 FY26.
- Recovery is expected through GenAI-enabled learning solutions with momentum aided by a multi-million-dollar platform implementation deal signed with a leading management institute in Asia.

Net headcount stable; revenue productivity increases



- Headcount remained flattish at 6,554 vs. 6,523 in Q1.
- Utilisation improved to 3-year high of 80.7%, reflecting strong delivery efficiency and stable demand; attrition further eased to 17.4% (TTM) from 18.2% in Q1.

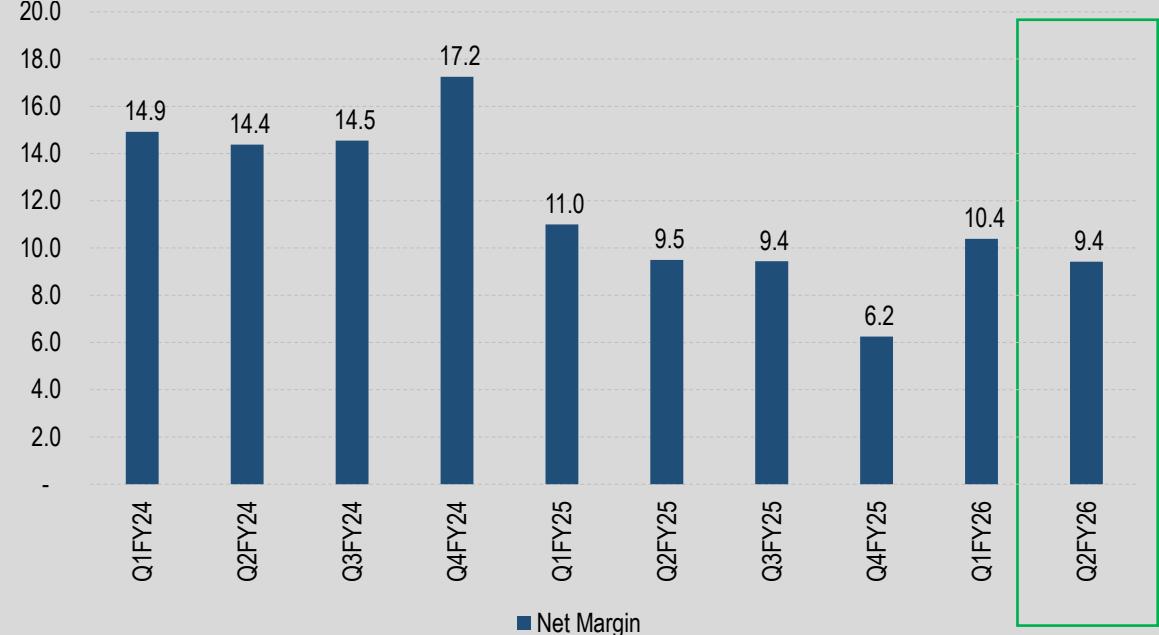


- **Annual revenue productivity** improved to ~\$40k/employee from ~\$38.3k over the last four quarters.
- Sharp rise is attributable to a higher utilisation (12-quarter high of 80.7% vs. average 77.65% over last 4 quarters), flat-to-lower headcount, and better talent deployment through just-in-time hiring.

EBIT margin expands sequentially net off wage hike impact; Net margin dipped...

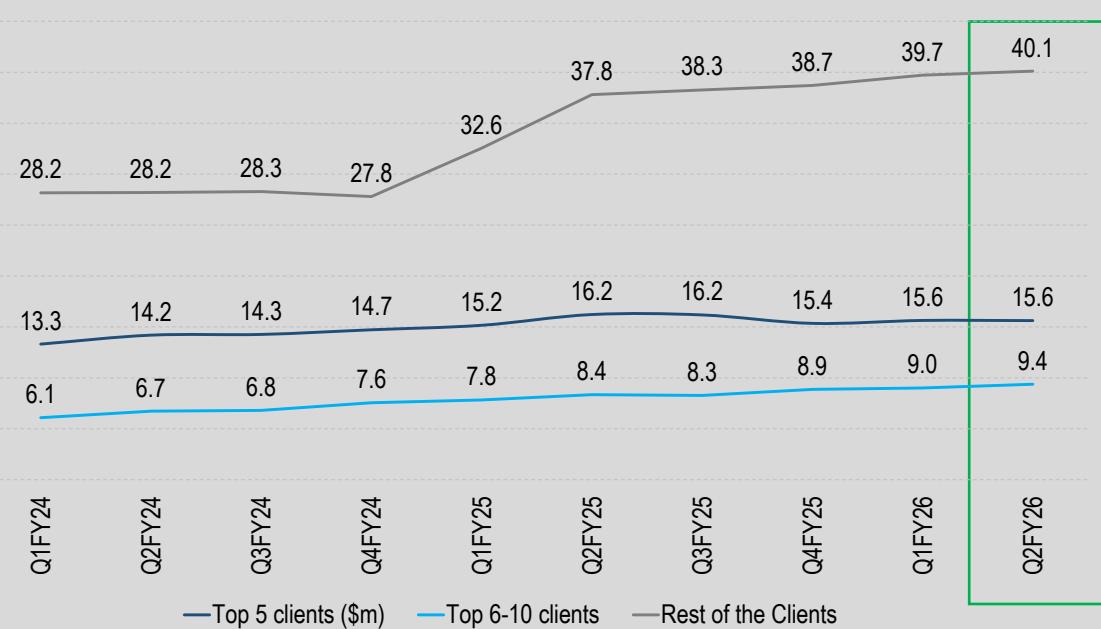


- Despite annual wage hike, EBIT margin stood at 13.3% in Q2 FY26 vs. 13% in Q1, mainly owing to improved operating efficiency with higher utilization of ~80.7% vs. average 77.65% over the last 4 quarters.



- Despite annual wage hike, EBIT margin stood at 13.3% in Q2 FY26 vs. 13% in Q1, mainly owing to improved operating efficiency with higher utilization of ~80.7% vs. average 77.65% over the last 4 quarters.
- Net margin fell in Q1 FY26 following the uptick seen in Q1 FY26 (down 97 bps q/q), led by lower Other Income (Rs216m vs. Rs300m in Q1), which was affected by the general macro uncertainties.
- Management's near-term focus is on improving efficiency rather than further expansion.

Stable client base with improving mining ...



- Net New (NN) sales initiative continued to gain traction, with addition of 30 clients in H1 (most of them Fortune 500/1,000 companies).
- These new clients contributed \$9mn to H1 revenue and represent \$50-60mn pipeline over the next 3-4 years. Notably, over half have already expanded into multiple initiatives, reflecting strong early engagement and cross-sell potential.
- Repeat business came in at ~93%, reflecting high client stickiness and consistent delivery.

Conference call highlights – Q2 FY26

Key takeaways

- Management reiterated double-digit CC revenue growth and 20–22% EBITDA margin in FY26, aided by continued strength across AI, cloud, cybersecurity and data-driven transformation. It targets four consecutive years of double-digit growth through FY28.
- Deferred deals in IMSS and BFSI are slated to ramp up in Q3-Q4, while GenAI use cases will begin billing, providing strong momentum for H2 FY26.
- Despite cautious discretionary spending, enterprise demand remains steady, focused on cost efficiency, digital transformation and GenAI-led productivity.
- GBS grew 18.6% q/q, with 22 reusable use cases representing a \$15m potential pipeline. GenAI projects command 20-25% pricing premium, underscoring strong monetisation.
- The US (60% of revenue) grew 2% q/q, led by GenAI and new-client additions. Europe (8.1%, +10.7% q/q) and India (18.3%, +5.2% q/q) showed sequential improvement, while Middle East & Africa are emerging as high-potential AI markets.
- Strength in Retail (9.8% of revenue, +8.9% q/q), Healthcare (16.3%, +6.4% q/q), and Hi-Tech (13.4%, +5.9% q/q) offset temporary softness in BFSI (25.3%, -2.3% q/q) and IMSS.
- BFSI recovery is expected in H2, as Artha Banking and APAC deals commence billing. EdTech is likely to bottom out by Q3 with GenAI-enabled learning platforms.
- Attrition declined to 17.4% (from 18.2% in Q1) and is likely to moderate further. Gross margin improved to 37.2%, with gain reinvested into scaling GenAI and new sales engines.
- Utilisation rose to 80.7% to 3-year high of 76.3% in Q2 FY25 vs. 78.5%/75.5%/77.3% in FY23/FY24/FY25), supporting profitability. In-line with guidance, EBITDA margin stood at 17.2%, with scope for improvement through higher efficiency and utilisation.

Other notables

- Q2FY26 saw healthy deal activity, with multiple GenAI-led and digital transformation engagements closed across key verticals.
- Management highlighted notable wins in Europe, including a GenAI use case for a large beverage bottler and digital programs in Retail & CPG.
- Net New Sales engine continues to drive traction, with addition of 30 clients in H1, most of them have expanded into multi-project relationships within months.

Guidance & Outlook

- Management reiterated confidence in achieving double-digit CC growth and maintaining 20-22% EBITDA margin in FY26.
- H2FY26 outlook remains stronger, aided by ramp-up of deferred BFSI and IMSS programmes, improving demand visibility in the US, and steady traction across AI-led transformation deals. Management continues to emphasise on execution quality and sustainable profitability over short-term growth.

Factsheet

| Revenue-split, by industry | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| (%) | Q3FY24 | Q4FY24 | Q1FY25 | Q2FY25 | Q3FY25 | Q4FY25 | Q1FY26 | Q2FY26 |
| Edu Tech | 24.0 | 22.3 | 21.5 | 19.3 | 17.4 | 17.0 | 16.1 | 15.3 |
| Hitech | 14.3 | 14.7 | 14.8 | 14.3 | 15.4 | 13.5 | 12.8 | 13.4 |
| Retail / CPG | 7.6 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 8.1 | 8.4 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 9.8 |
| TME | 11.7 | 12.2 | 10.7 | 8.6 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.8 | 9.6 |
| BFSI | 10.9 | 11.4 | 16.8 | 22.5 | 23.6 | 26.5 | 26.2 | 25.3 |
| Industrial | 6.8 | 7.4 | 7.3 | 7.2 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 6.6 |
| MFG | 7.4 | 6.3 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 3.3 |
| Others | 2.5 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 |
| Healthcare | 14.8 | 16.1 | 16.4 | 16.4 | 16.4 | 15.6 | 15.5 | 16.3 |

| Revenue-split, by services | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| (%) | Q3FY24 | Q4FY24 | Q1FY25 | Q2FY25 | Q3FY25 | Q4FY25 | Q1FY26 | Q2FY26 |
| PDES | 52.4 | 51.7 | 81.2 | 83.3 | 83.2 | 81.6 | 80.4 | 81.1 |
| GBS | 29.8 | 30.1 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.7 |
| IMSS | 17.8 | 18.1 | 17.2 | 15.1 | 15.1 | 16.4 | 17.2 | 16.2 |

| Operational performance | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Q3FY24 | Q4FY24 | Q1FY25 | Q2FY25 | Q3FY25 | Q4FY25 | Q1FY26 | Q2FY26 |
| Growth, by vertical (Y/Y) | | | | | | | | |
| Edu Tech | 13% | 10% | 4% | -2% | -8% | -4% | -13% | -17% |
| Hi-Tech | 27% | 5% | 17% | 28% | 37% | 15% | 0% | -2% |
| Retail & CPG | -20% | 11% | 28% | 43% | 40% | 40% | 35% | 26% |
| TME | -3% | 1% | 4% | -6% | -9% | -13% | 6% | 16% |
| BFSI | 15% | 15% | 78% | 177% | 175% | 192% | 81% | 17% |
| Industrial | -19% | -3% | 4% | 20% | 25% | 15% | 6% | -4% |
| Manufacturing | 36% | 15% | -13% | -40% | -45% | -48% | -10% | 15% |
| Others | -26% | -33% | -76% | -81% | -75% | -53% | -10% | -30% |
| Healthcare | 8% | 10% | 48% | 51% | 41% | 22% | 10% | 4% |

| Client profiles (LTM) | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Q3FY24 | Q4FY24 | Q1FY25 | Q2FY25 | Q3FY25 | Q4FY25 | Q1FY26 | Q2FY26 |
| Client profiling | | | | | | | | |
| \$1m+ | | | | | | | 32 | 37 |
| \$3m+ | | | | | | | 4 | 2 |
| \$5m+ | | | | | | | 7 | 6 |
| \$10m+ | | | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| Client additions (LTM) | | | | | | | | |
| \$1m+ | | | | | | | 13 | 11 |
| \$3m+ | | | | | | | 2 | 6 |
| \$5m+ | | | | | | | 1 | - |
| \$10m+ | | | | | | | 2 | - |
| Active Clients | | | | | | | 245 | 250 |
| Client additions | | | | | | | 15 | 13 |

| Client concentration % (LTM) | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Q3FY24 | Q4FY24 | Q1FY25 | Q2FY25 | Q3FY25 | Q4FY25 | Q1FY26 | Q2FY26 |
| Top | | | | | | | | |
| Top | | | | | | | 11 | 11 |
| Top 5 | | | | | | | 29 | 29 |
| Top 10 | | | | | | | 43 | 45 |
| Top 20 | | | | | | | 56 | 58 |

Pure and Aureus which were consolidated in Q1FY25 together amounting to revenue of \$50mn (~25% of pre-acquisition revenue)

DCF valuation benefits from leveraged capital structure.

- We expect EBIT margin to expand by 100bps to 14.5% over FY26-28, with 13.8% CAGR in adj. EPS. Adjusted EPS reflects the add-back of acquisition amortisation to reported EPS.
- At CMP, the stock trades adj. P/E of 24.9x/22x FY27e/28e.
- Our TP Rs658, implies ~28% upside potential from the CMP of Rs515 (31st Oct'25).

| S.No | Valuation methodology | Assumptions | Intrinsic Value (Rs) | Target Price (Rs) |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| (1) | Forward-multiple method | We apply a 30x P/E multiple to LTM Sep'27e EPS of Rs 22.2 | 660 | |
| (2) | DCF (Base Case) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15-year DCF, with a terminal growth rate of 5.5% FY25-30e revenue CAGR (base case): 9.5% WACC: 10.7% | 655 | |
| | Overall | A 50% weight to (1) and (2) each, to arrive at the TP of | 658 | |

| DCF assumptions | | Unit | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|--|-------|--------------------------|------|------|-------|
| Valuation date | | | 30-Sep-25 | | | |
| WACC | | % | 10.7 | | | |
| TGR (terminal growth) | | % | 5.5 | | | |
| Risk-free rate | | % | 6.5 | | | |
| ERP (eq. risk premium) | | % | 6.5 | | | |
| Beta | | | 0.89 | | | |
| Capital structure | | Unit | | | | |
| Eq. (% of total capital) | | % | 67.8 | | | |
| Debt (% of total capital) | | % | 32.2 | | | |
| Cost of equity | | % | 12.3 | | | |
| Cost of debt | | % | 7.7 | | | |
| Implied share-price sensitivity (base case) | | | | | | |
| | | | Terminal growth rate (%) | | | |
| | | 365.9 | 4.75% | 5.0% | 5.5% | 5.75% |
| | | 10.2% | 688 | 708 | 730 | 755 |
| | | 10.4% | 654 | 671 | 691 | 712 |
| | | 10.7% | 622 | 638 | 655 | 674 |
| | | 10.9% | 594 | 608 | 623 | 640 |
| | | 11.2% | 568 | 580 | 594 | 609 |
| | | | | | | 625 |

Quick Glance – Financials and Valuations

Key financials

Fig 1 – Income statement (Rs m)

| Year-end: Mar | FY24 | FY25 | FY26e | FY27e | FY28e |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Revenues (US\$m) | 196 | 244 | 262 | 281 | 303 |
| Growth (%) | 10.3 | 24.2 | 7.7 | 7.1 | 7.7 |
| Net revenues (Rs m) | 16,247 | 20,608 | 22,944 | 24,772 | 26,667 |
| Employee & Direct Costs | 9,920 | 13,115 | 14,308 | 15,405 | 16,755 |
| Gross Profit | 6,326 | 7,494 | 8,637 | 9,366 | 9,912 |
| Gross Margin % | 38.94 | 36.36 | 37.64 | 37.81 | 37.17 |
| SG&A | 2,968 | 3,949 | 4,650 | 5,014 | 5,192 |
| EBITDA | 3,359 | 3,545 | 3,986 | 4,353 | 4,720 |
| EBITDA margins (%) | 20.7 | 17.2 | 17.4 | 17.6 | 17.7 |
| - Depreciation | 583 | 887 | 893 | 892 | 847 |
| Other income | 854 | 1,014 | 949 | 886 | 899 |
| Interest Exp | 423 | 995 | 1,011 | 783 | 603 |
| PBT | 3,207 | 2,677 | 3,032 | 3,564 | 4,169 |
| Effective tax rate (%) | 27 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| + Associates/(Minorities) / Exceptional Items | 140 | -122 | -122 | -122 | - |
| Net Income | 2,484 | 1,847 | 2,132 | 2,528 | 3,100 |
| WANS | 148 | 152 | 152 | 152 | 152 |
| Adj. FDEPS (Rs/share) | 17.6 | 17.3 | 18.1 | 20.7 | 23.4 |

Fig 2 – Balance sheet (Rs m)

| Year-end: Mar | FY24 | FY25 | FY26e | FY27e | FY28e |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Share capital | 299 | 300 | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| Net worth | 14,802 | 15,746 | 16,873 | 18,296 | 20,179 |
| Total debt (including Pref) | 4,424 | 11,609 | 11,029 | 10,869 | 8,695 |
| Minority interest | - | - | - | - | - |
| DTL/(Asset) | -33 | -231 | -231 | -231 | -231 |
| Capital employed | 19,193 | 27,123 | 27,669 | 28,933 | 28,642 |
| Net tangible assets | 1,948 | 2,105 | 1,792 | 1,488 | 1,197 |
| Net Intangible assets (incl. Goodwill) | 2,182 | 10,008 | 11,437 | 13,012 | 12,554 |
| Goodwill | - | - | - | - | - |
| CWIP (tangible and intangible) | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Investments (Strategic) | | | | | |
| Investments (Financial) | 12,218 | 12,895 | 12,895 | 12,895 | 12,895 |
| Current Assets (ex Cash) Incl LT assets | 4,819 | 6,676 | 7,285 | 7,737 | 8,198 |
| Cash | 1,147 | 1,191 | 230 | 174 | 465 |
| Current Liabilities (ex ST Loan/Current Portion) i | 3,122 | 5,753 | 5,970 | 6,375 | 6,669 |
| Working capital | 1,697 | 923 | 1,315 | 1,362 | 1,529 |
| Capital deployed | 19,193 | 27,123 | 27,669 | 28,933 | 28,642 |
| Contingent Liabilities | - | - | - | - | - |

Fig 3 – Cash Flow statement (Rs m)

| Year-end: Mar | FY24 | FY25 | FY26e | FY27e | FY28e |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| PBT | 3,207 | 2,677 | 3,032 | 3,564 | 4,169 |
| + Non-cash items | 249 | 1,007 | 955 | 788 | 551 |
| Operating profit before WC | 3,456 | 3,683 | 3,986 | 4,353 | 4,720 |
| - Incr.(/decr.) in WC | 306 | 373 | 513 | 169 | 167 |
| Others incuding taxes | -1,024 | -946 | -778 | -914 | -1,070 |
| Operating cash-flow | 2,126 | 2,364 | 2,695 | 3,269 | 3,483 |
| - Capex (tangible + Intangible) | 82 | 77 | 85 | 92 | 99 |
| Free cash-flow | 2,043 | 2,288 | 2,610 | 3,177 | 3,384 |
| Acquisitions | - | -7,312 | -1,924 | -2,071 | - |
| - Dividend (including buyback & taxes) | -860 | -859 | -1,005 | -1,106 | -1,216 |
| + Equity raised | 4,856 | - | - | - | - |
| + Debt raised | 395 | 7,372 | -580 | -159 | -2,174 |
| + Fin Investments | -1,653 | -3,463 | - | - | - |
| + Misc. Items (CFI + CFF) | -5,334 | 1,714 | -62 | 104 | 297 |
| Net cash-flow | -553 | -261 | -962 | -55 | 291 |

Fig 4 – Ratio analysis

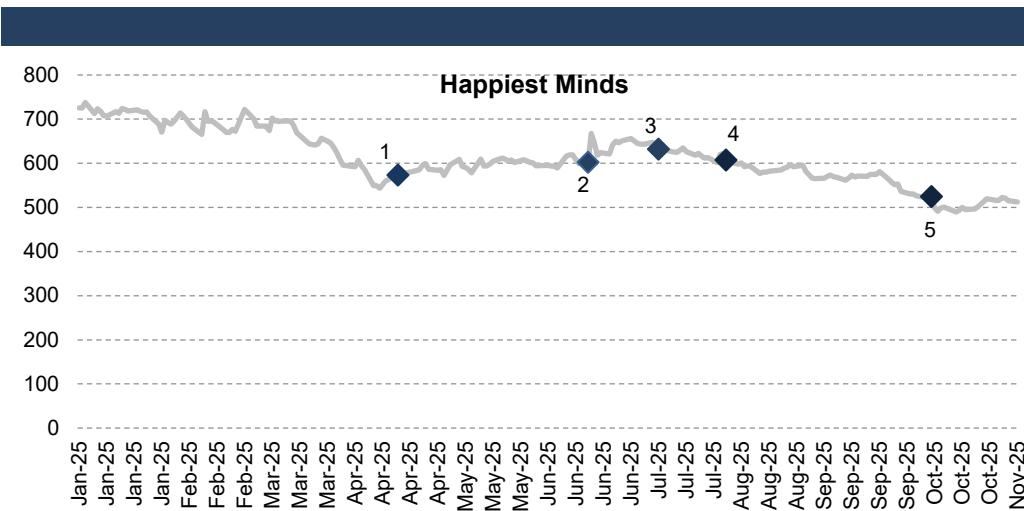
| Year end Mar | FY24 | FY25 | FY26e | FY27e | FY28e |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Adj. P/E (x) | 29.2 | 29.8 | 28.5 | 24.9 | 22.0 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 22.6 | 21.4 | 19.1 | 17.4 | 16.1 |
| EV/sales (x) | 4.3 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 2.8 |
| P/B (x) | 5.3 | 5.0 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 3.9 |
| RoE (%) | 21.4 | 12.1 | 13.1 | 14.4 | 16.1 |
| RoCE (%) - After tax | 11.7 | 7.7 | 7.6 | 8.2 | 9.0 |
| RoIC (%) - After tax | 28.2 | 16.9 | 13.7 | 14.0 | 15.3 |
| DPS (Rs per share) | 5.8 | 6.0 | 6.6 | 7.3 | 8.0 |
| Dividend yield (%) | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.6 |
| Dividend payout (%) - Inc. DDT | 34.4 | 49.5 | 47.1 | 43.7 | 39.2 |
| Net debt/equity (x) | -0.6 | -0.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| Receivables (days) | 83 | 90 | 89 | 88 | 87 |
| Inventory (days) | | | | | |
| Payables (days) | 22 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 22 |
| CFO:PAT% | 86 | 128 | 126 | 129 | 112 |
| FCF:PAT% - includ M&A payout | 82 | -272 | 32 | 44 | 109 |

Appendix

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|---|-----------|--------|---------|------------------|
| 1 | 15-Apr-25 | Buy | 735 | 564 |
| 2 | 16-Jun-25 | Buy | 790 | 601 |
| 3 | 09-Jul-25 | Buy | 803 | 636 |
| 4 | 31-Jul-25 | Buy | 789 | 607 |
| 5 | 06-Oct-25 | Buy | 666 | 526 |

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