

Hindustan Zinc

Estimate changes	↔
TP change	↑
Rating change	↔

Bloomberg	HZ IN
Equity Shares (m)	4225
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USD\$)	2790.4 / 30.7
52-Week Range (INR)	671 / 378
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	14/49/34
12M Avg Val (INR M)	2813

Financials Snapshot (INR b)

Y/E MARCH	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Net Sales	388	438	482
EBITDA	210	250	285
PAT	130	157	180
EPS (INR)	30.7	37.1	42.6
GR. (%)	24.4	20.8	14.7
BV/Sh (INR)	50.3	75.4	106.0

Ratios

ROE (%)	75.1	59.1	46.9
RoCE (%)	60.6	55.9	49.3

Valuations

P/E (X)	21.5	17.8	15.5
P/BV (X)	13.1	8.8	6.2
EV/EBITDA (X)	13.0	10.6	8.8
Div Yield (%)	1.8	1.8	1.8

Shareholding pattern (%)

As of	Dec-25	Sep-25	Dec-24
Promoter	61.8	61.8	63.4
DII	32.6	32.8	32.0
FII	1.5	1.3	1.4
Others	4.0	4.0	3.2

FII includes depository receipts

CMP: INR660 **TP: INR720 (+9%)** **Neutral**

Earnings beat over favorable pricing and lower costs

- In 3QFY26, revenue stood at INR110b (+28% YoY and QoQ), which was 10% above our estimates. The growth was driven by favorable commodity prices and volume recovery.
- EBITDA came at INR61b (+35% YoY and +36% QoQ), against our estimate of INR54b during the quarter. EBITDA margin stood at 55.1% in 3QFY26 vs 52% in 2QFY26 and 52.2% in 3QFY25. The increase was primarily on account of favorable metal prices and lower cost of production.
- Zinc CoP (ex-royalty) stood at USD940/t in 3Q (-10% YoY and -5% QoQ), led by lower power costs, increased by-product NSR, and better volume output, offsetting higher mine development costs.
- APAT stood at INR39b (+46% YoY and +48% QoQ) vs our estimate of INR34b.
- In 9MFY26, revenue grew +9% YoY to INR273b, whereas EBITDA and PAT increased 14% and 18% YoY to INR144b/88b, respectively. Zinc CoP (ex-royalty) stood at USD980/t (-9% YoY) in 9MFY26.
- Mined metal for the quarter stood at 276kt (+4% YoY and +7% QoQ), driven by higher ore production.
- Refined metal production stood at 270kt (+4% YoY and +9% QoQ) in 3QFY26, driven by the commissioning of Chanderiya & Dariba debottlenecking projects, along with the ramp-up of the 160ktpa roaster at Debari.
- Refined zinc production was 221kt (+8% YoY and +10% QoQ), while refined lead production stood at 49kt (-11% YoY and +9% QoQ) due to lower pyro plant availability. Salable silver production declined 1% YoY and increased 10% QoQ to 158kt, in line with lead production.
- In 9MFY26, HZL clocked mined metal production of 799kt (+2% YoY), while the salable metal declined 2% YoY to 766kt. In this, refined zinc output stood at 624kt (+2% YoY), while refined lead production was at 142kt (-16% YoY) due to lower pyro plant availability. With lower lead production and silver input, the salable silver output declined 12% YoY to 451t during 9MFY26.

Key management commentary

- The company reiterated its refined metal guidance of 1,075-1,100ktpa and expects to achieve silver output guidance of 680t (±10t) for FY26.
- For 4QFY26, management anticipates silver volumes to improve QoQ, driven by the resumption of capacity post shutdowns, favorable weather conditions, and operational improvements.
- HZ expects further cost improvement by 4QFY26, supported by higher renewable-energy usage and better ore grades.
- Renewable energy contributed 20% of total power in 3QFY26, and the company expects to reach 25% by FY26-end.

Research analyst – **Alok Deora** (Alok.Deora@motilaloswal.com)
Sonu Upadhyay (Sonu.Upadhyay@motilaloswal.com)

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- With the upcoming wind power capacity, the company expects the RE share to increase to 35-40% in FY26 and ~70% in FY27. The commissioning of battery storage is expected to lead to incremental annual savings of INR2.5-3b.

Valuation and view

- HZL delivered a strong earnings performance in 3QFY26, primarily driven by favorable metal pricing and a recovery in volumes. The company continues to focus on improving production output with tighter cost-control measures, leading to margin sustenance.
- The recently announced expansion plans are aligned with its long-term objective of doubling existing capacity and enhancing long-term earnings visibility. However, near-term earnings growth is likely to remain capped, with LME price inflation emerging as the key catalyst for incremental upside in the near term.
- We increase our earnings estimates for FY26E (Revenue/EBITDA/PAT by 5/8/10%), driven by higher silver prices, while maintaining our FY27/28 estimates. **At CMP, HZ trades at 10.6x FY27E EV/EBITDA, and we believe the current valuation has priced in all the positive factors. We reiterate our Neutral rating with a TP of INR720 (premised on 10.5x EV/EBITDA on Sep'27E).**

Quarterly Performance

Y/E March	FY25				FY26				FY25	FY26E	FY26 3QE	Vs. Est.%
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4QE				
Mine prodn. (kt)	263	256	265	311	265	258	276	291	1,095	1,090	276	
Sales												
Zinc refined (kt)	211	198	201	218	201	202	221	226	827	850		
Lead refined (kt)	51	63	55	56	48	45	49	51	225	193		
Silver (tonnes)	167	184	160	177	145	147	158	160	687	610		
Net Sales	81.3	82.5	86.1	90.9	77.7	85.5	109.8	115.2	340.8	388.2	99.7	10.1
Change (YoY %)	11.6	21.5	17.8	20.4	(4.4)	3.6	27.5	26.8	17.8	13.9		
Change (QoQ %)	7.7	1.5	4.4	5.5	(14.5)	10.0	28.4	4.9				
EBITDA	39.5	41.2	45.0	48.2	38.6	44.5	60.5	66.3	173.9	209.9	54.3	11.4
Change (YoY %)	17.9	31.3	27.8	32.1	(2.2)	7.8	34.6	37.6	27.3	20.7		
Change (QoQ %)	8.1	4.5	9.1	7.1	(19.9)	15.2	36.2	9.5				
As % of Net Sales	48.5	50.0	52.2	53.0	49.7	52.0	55.1	57.6	51.0	54.1		
Finance cost	2.6	3.0	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.0	2.4	11.0	9.4		
DD&A	8.4	8.8	9.1	10.1	9.1	8.8	9.5	10.0	36.4	37.4		
Other Income	2.7	2.7	2.2	2.3	2.8	2.4	2.9	2.8	9.8	10.9		
PBT (before EO item)	31.1	32.1	35.3	37.8	29.9	35.4	52.1	56.7	136.4	174.0		
EO exp. (income)	-	(0.8)	-	-	-	-	0.3	-	(0.8)	0.3		
PBT	31.1	31.3	35.3	37.8	29.9	35.4	52.3	56.7	135.5	174.3	44.7	17.0
Total Tax	7.7	8.0	8.5	7.8	7.5	8.9	13.1	14.6	32.0	44.2		
% Tax	24.7	25.7	24.1	20.6	25.2	25.2	25.1	25.8	23.6	25.4		
Reported PAT	23.5	23.3	26.8	30.0	22.3	26.5	39.2	42.1	103.5	130.1		
Adjusted PAT	23.5	24.1	26.8	30.0	22.3	26.5	38.9	42.1	104.4	129.8	33.7	15.6
Change (YoY %)	19.4	39.4	32.1	47.4	(4.7)	9.9	46.2	40.2	33.4	25.6		
Change (QoQ %)	15.1	(0.8)	15.1	12.1	(25.6)	18.6	47.8	7.5				



Highlights from the management commentary

Performance guidance

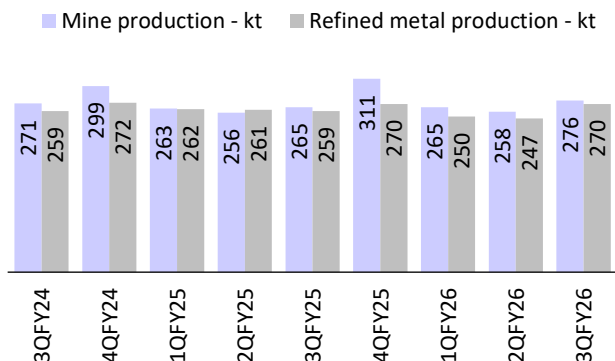
- The company reiterated its refined metal guidance to 1,075-1,100ktpa and expects to achieve its silver output guidance of 680t (± 10 t) for FY26.
- In 4QFY26, management anticipates silver volumes to improve QoQ, driven by the resumption of capacity post shutdowns, favorable weather conditions, and operational improvements.
- HZ expects further cost improvement to USD950-975/t by 4QFY26, supported by higher renewable-energy usage and better ore grades.
- Renewable energy contributed 20% of total power in 3QFY26, and the company expects to reach 25% by FY26 end.
- With the upcoming wind power capacity, the company expects the RE share to increase to 35-40% in FY26 and $\sim 70\%$ in FY27. The commissioning of battery storage is expected to lead to an incremental annual saving of INR2.5-3b.
- Silver surged to an all-time high of over USD93/toz in Jan'26, driven by continued supply constraints and improved demand for industrial use and investment purpose.
- For 3QFY26, the company hedged 47kt of zinc and 55t of silver, which were squared off within the quarter. For 4QFY26, 53kt of zinc is hedged at USD2,900/t and 68t of silver at USD39/toz, executed in Jun-Jul'25. For FY27, the company has hedged 66kt of zinc and 56t of silver at USD58/toz.
- Grades comparison – 7.3% during 3QFY26 and 7.4% during 3QFY25. Grade for overall 9MFY26 was 7.4%.
- For next year, management anticipates to continue operating in a lead-plus-zinc mode, especially if zinc prices remain stable at around USD3,200-3,300/t. Management indicated that it could have switched to a lead-heavy mode if zinc prices were lower and silver prices higher, making it more economical to produce silver and less zinc, while lead quantity would remain constant.

Capacity update/capital allocation

- Total growth capex for the full year is projected to be \sim USD300m, with USD180m already spent as of Dec'25. Management guided a maintenance capex of USD350-400m for FY27 and USD90-100m in 4QFY26.
- The combined investment plan of INR160b includes INR120b for the 250ktpa integrated capacity expansion, with target completion by 2QFY29 and INR38b for the 10mtpa zinc tailings project by 4QFY28.
- For 250ktpa capacity expansion, the company commence the groundwork and site mobilization and completed 50% of detailed engineering. This expansion plan also includes mined capacity from 1,180ktpa to 1,510ktpa, for which the company has appointed a mining partner.
- For the Zinc Tailings Reprocessing Plant, the company has commenced the groundwork and appointed a tech, engineer, and construction partner.
- HZ completed debottlenecking at Dariba Smelting Complex in 2Q. Debottlenecking at the Chanderiya Lead Zinc smelter was commissioned in 3QFY26.
- The 510kt DAP/NPK fertilizer plant at Chanderiya is in progress and will be commissioned by 1QFY27.
- The hot acid leaching plant for lead (27mtpa) and silver (6ktpa) recovery from smelting waste at Dariba will be completed by 4QFY26. These projects will enable higher refined metal and silver production in the coming years.

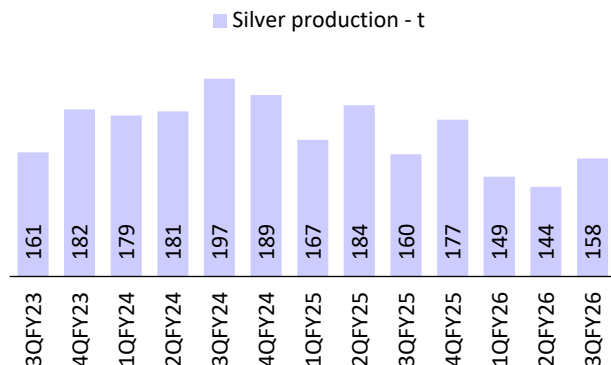
Story in charts

Exhibit 1: Mine and refined metal production trends



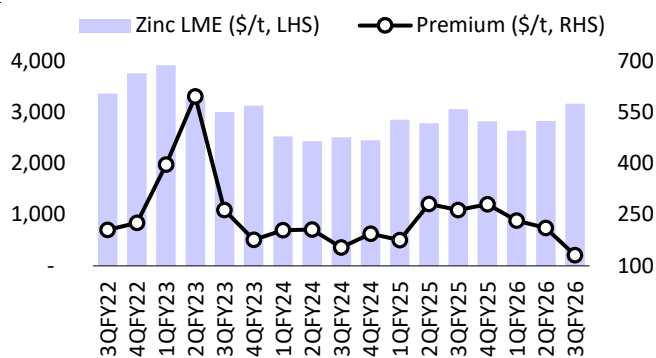
Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 2: Silver production (t) recovered in 3Q



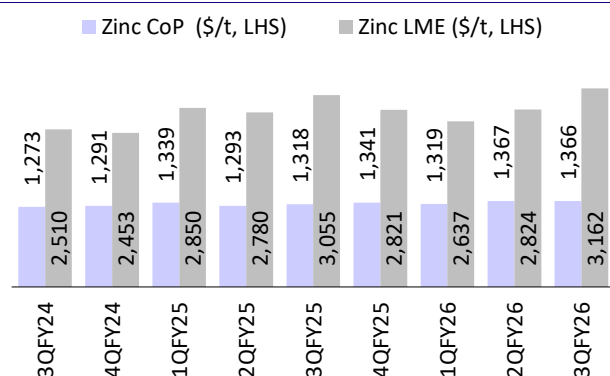
Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 3: Premium moderated QoQ to USD131/t



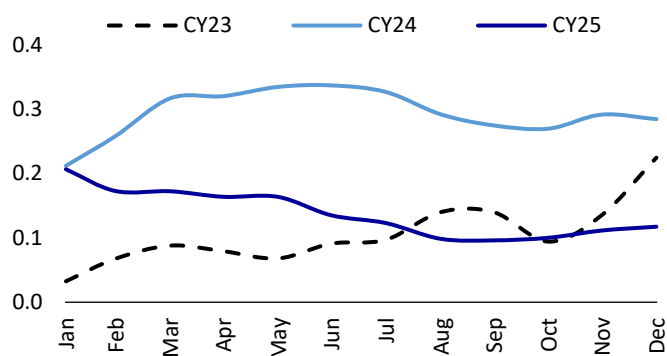
Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 4: Reported Zinc's CoP declined to USD940/t



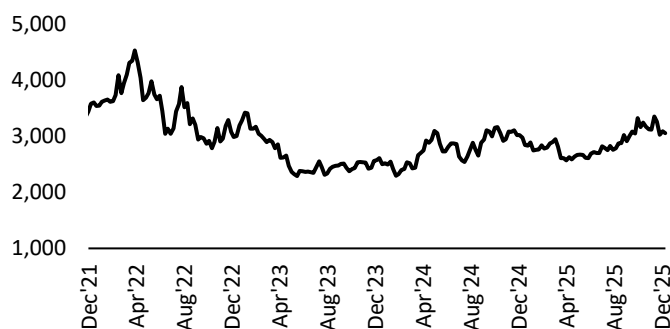
Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 5: Zinc inventory trend (LME+SHFE)



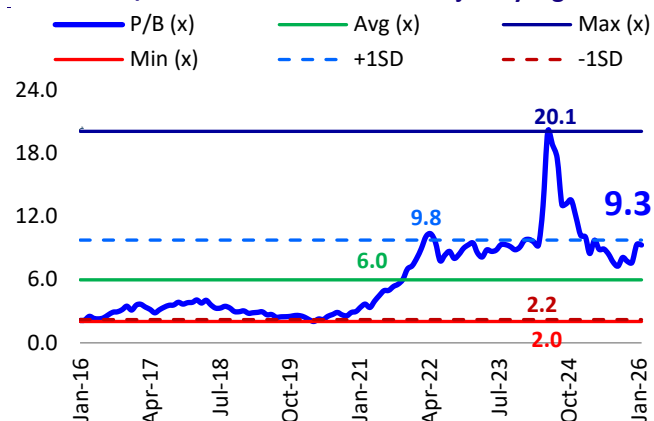
Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 6: LME Zinc prices (USD/t)



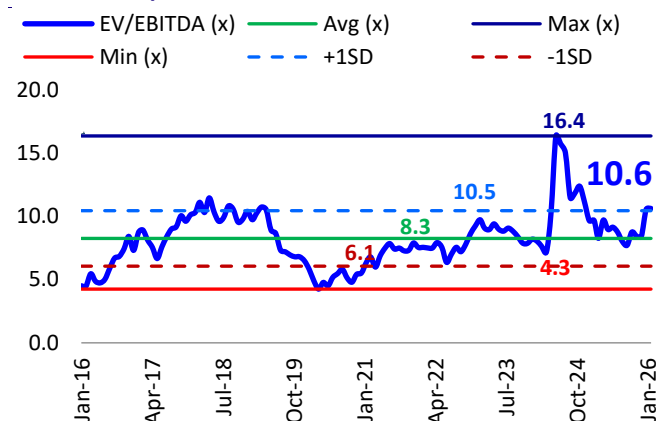
Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 7: P/B ratio at elevated levels to justify high RoE



Source: MOFSL

Exhibit 8: EV/EBITDA trends



Source: MOFSL

Exhibit 9: Valuation

Valuation	UoM	Sep'27E
EBITDA	INR b	268
EV/EBITDA Multiple	x	10.5
Enterprise Value	INR b	2,813
Net Cash	INR b	205
Equity value	INR b	3,018
Shares outstanding	b	4.2
Target price (INR/sh)	INR/sh	720

Source: MOFSL

Financials and Valuation

Income Statement							INR b	
Y/E March	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Net Sales	226	294	341	289	341	388	438	482
Total Expenses	110	132	166	153	167	178	188	196
EBITDA	117	162	175	137	174	210	250	285
DDA	25	29	33	35	36	37	47	52
EBIT	91	133	142	102	137	173	203	233
Finance cost	4	3	3	10	11	9	10	11
Other income	18	12	14	11	10	11	17	18
PBT	106	142	153	103	136	174	210	241
Tax	26	45	48	25	32	44	53	61
Rate (%)	24.5	31.4	31.2	24.7	23.5	25.4	25.4	25.4
PAT (before EO)	80	98	105	78	104	130	157	180
EO expense (Income)	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Reported PAT	80	96	105	78	104	130	157	180
APAT	80	98	105	78	104	130	157	180
Change (YoY %)	17.3	22.3	7.7	-26.2	34.5	24.4	20.8	14.7

Balance Sheet (Consolidated)							INR b	
Y/E March	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Share Capital	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Reserves	315	334	121	144	125	204	310	439
Net Worth	323	343	129	152	133	212	318	448
Total Loans	65	28	119	85	108	106	104	102
Deferred Tax Liability	-11	9	23	23	23	23	24	24
Capital Employed	377	381	271	261	264	342	446	574
Gross Block	300	335	370	410	451	491	563	611
Less: Accum. Deprn.	132	161	194	229	265	302	349	401
Net Fixed Assets	168	174	176	182	186	189	214	210
Capital WIP	19	21	22	17	26	26	26	26
WC. Assets	259	252	156	140	133	209	292	426
Inventory	14	20	19	19	19	21	24	26
Account Receivables	4	7	4	2	1	5	6	7
Cash and Bank Balance	223	208	113	100	93	163	242	374
Loans and advances	18	17	21	19	19	19	19	19
WC. Liability & Prov.	69	66	84	78	81	83	86	88
Trade payables	15	20	21	21	22	24	27	30
Provisions & Others	54	46	63	57	59	59	59	59
Net WC. Assets	190	186	72	62	52	127	206	338
Appl. of Funds	377	381	271	261	264	342	446	574

E: MOFSL Estimates

Financials and Valuation

Ratios

Y/E March	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Basic (INR)								
EPS	18.9	23.1	24.9	18.4	24.7	30.7	37.1	42.6
Cash EPS	24.9	30.0	32.6	26.6	33.3	39.6	48.2	54.9
BV/Share	76.5	81.1	30.6	36.0	31.5	50.3	75.4	106.0
DPS	21.3	18.0	75.5	13.0	29.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
Payout (%)	112.7	77.9	303.5	70.8	117.4	39.0	32.3	28.2
Valuation (x)								
P/E	35.0	28.6	26.5	36.0	26.7	21.5	17.8	15.5
Cash P/E	26.5	22.0	20.3	24.9	19.8	16.7	13.7	12.0
EV/Sales	11.6	8.9	8.2	9.6	8.2	7.0	6.1	5.2
EV/EBITDA	22.5	16.1	16.0	20.3	16.1	13.0	10.6	8.8
Dividend Yield (%)	3.2	2.7	11.4	2.0	4.4	1.8	1.8	1.8
Return Ratios (%)								
EBITDA Margins	51.6	55.1	51.3	47.2	51.0	54.1	57.2	59.2
Net Profit Margins	35.3	33.2	30.8	26.8	30.6	33.4	35.8	37.3
RoCE (pre-tax)	28.5	38.3	47.9	42.4	56.2	60.6	55.9	49.3
RoIC (pre-tax)	56.7	81.5	86.1	64.0	83.1	98.9	106.6	115.6
Working Capital Ratios								
Fixed Asset Turnover (x)	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.3
Receivable (Days)	7	9	4	5	5	5	5	5
Trade payable (Days)	25	25	22	22	22	22	22	22
Leverage Ratio (x)								
Current Ratio	3.7	3.8	1.9	1.8	1.6	2.5	3.4	4.8
Interest Cover Ratio	28.4	50.1	46.9	11.8	13.5	19.6	22.2	23.9
Net Debt/Equity	(0.5)	(0.5)	0.0	(0.1)	0.1	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.6)

Cash Flow Statement

	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
EBITDA								
EBITDA	117	162	175	137	174	210	250	285
Non-cash exp. (income)	0	1	2	16	(32)	-	-	-
(Inc)/Dec in Wkg. Cap.	6	(12)	6	(2)	3	(5)	(0)	(0)
Tax paid	(18)	(24)	(31)	(18)	(3)	(44)	(53)	(61)
CF from Op. Activity	106	127	151	133	142	161	197	224
(Inc)/Dec in FA + CWIP	(24)	(30)	(35)	(40)	(41)	(40)	(72)	(48)
Free Cash Flow	81	97	116	93	101	121	125	176
Interest & Dividend Income	15	9	14	11	10	11	17	18
Others	(15)	29	87	(5)	4	-	-	-
CF from Inv. Activity	(24)	8	66	(34)	(27)	(29)	(55)	(30)
Debt raised/(repaid)	65	(43)	90	(34)	22	(2)	(2)	(2)
Dividend (incl. tax)	(160)	(76)	(319)	(55)	(123)	(51)	(51)	(51)
Interest paid	(2)	(3)	(3)	(10)	(11)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Others	-	-	-	(1)	(3)	-	-	-
CF from Fin. Activity	(97)	(123)	(232)	(99)	(114)	(62)	(63)	(63)
(Inc)/Dec in Cash	(16)	13	(15)	(0)	0	70	79	132
Add: Opening cash balance	19	3	16	1	1	1	71	150
Adjustments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Closing cash balance	3	16	1	1	1	71	150	282
Bank balance and current investments	220	192	112	100	92	92	92	92
Closing Balance (incl. bank balance and inv.)	223	208	113	100	93	163	242	374

E: MOFSL Estimates

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NOTES

Explanation of Investment Rating	
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)
BUY	>=15%
SELL	< - 10%
NEUTRAL	< - 10 % to 15%
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation

*In case the recommendation given by the Research Analyst is inconsistent with the investment rating legend for a continuous period of 30 days, the Research Analyst shall be within following 30 days take appropriate measures to make the recommendation consistent with the investment rating legend.

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Exhibit 3: Grievance Redressal Cell:

Contact Person	Contact No.	Email ID
Ms. Hemangi Date	022 40548000 / 022 67490600	query@motilaloswal.com
Ms. Kumud Upadhyay	022 40548082	servicehead@motilaloswal.com
Mr. Ajay Menon	022 40548083	am@motilaloswal.com
Mr. Neeraj Agarwal	022 40548085	na@motilaloswal.com
Mr. Siddhartha Khemka	022 50362452	po.research@motilaloswal.com

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