



Operational Outperformance and Market Share Gains

Est. vs. Actual for Q4FY25: Revenue – **INLINE** ; EBITDA – **INLINE** ; PAT – **BEAT**

Change in Estimates post Q4FY25

FY26E/FY27E: Revenue: -2.1%/-1.9%; EBITDA: 4.7%/4.7%; PAT: 6.2%/4.5%

Recommendation Rationale

- **Domestic CV Industry:** Ashok Leyland expects a positive FY26 for the CV industry, aided by favourable macroeconomic indicators such as robust monsoon forecasts, core sector expansion, and renewed government capex. While Q1FY26 may remain subdued due to high base effects, growth is expected to pick up meaningfully from Q2 onwards. The company anticipates low single-digit volume growth in FY26, in line with industry peers.
- **EV & Alternative Fuel:** The company is intensifying efforts in the electric and alternative fuel space, with substantial investment earmarked for FY26. (1) 6 new LCV models, Intelligent Vehicle Acceleration Control (IVAC) for MHCVs, fully built CNG buses, and 19T and 55T EV trucks launched. (2) EV Terminal Tractor and 15mt SE Bus showcased at Auto Expo 2025 – commercial production due in FY26. (3) EV Centre of Excellence is operational to support critical component development (battery, motor, etc.).
- **Cost Leadership & Margin Levers:** Ashok Leyland is focused on premiumisation, cost optimisation, and service differentiation to strengthen margins. It targets Rs 100 Cr in cost savings for FY26 and is enhancing services to reduce vehicle downtime. Despite expected steel price increases, management anticipates stable margins due to internal efficiencies.

Sector Outlook: Cautiously Positive

Company Outlook & Guidance: AL is focused on gaining CV market share by improving its domestic presence and meeting customers' requirements by investing in the non-auto side of its business and product development, including diverse powertrain technologies. Furthermore, optimising operational efficiencies, material cost reduction efforts, growing non-cyclical segments and pricing discipline are expected to generate strong positive cash flows.

Current Valuation: 18x P/E on FY27E EPS and Rs 27/share for stake in HLF Ltd.(unchanged)

Current TP: Rs 270/share (earlier Rs 245/share)

Recommendation: We maintain our **BUY** rating on the stock.

Financial Performance

In Q4FY25, Ashok Leyland's Revenue was at Rs 11,907 Cr (In line), up 5.7%/25.6% YoY/QoQ, led by 5% YoY volume growth and flat ASP. EBITDA (In line) stood at Rs 1,791 Cr, up 12.5%/47.8% YoY/QoQ, on account of cost control measures and a richer product mix. EBITDA Margins were 15%, up 91 bps/226 bps YoY/QoQ, predominantly led by gross margin expansion. PAT (Beat) stood at Rs 1,255 Cr, up 32.3%/64.8% YoY/QoQ, largely following the EBITDA and lower effective tax rate.

Key Financials (Standalone)

| (Rs Cr) | Q4FY25 | QoQ (%) | YoY (%) | Axis Est. | Variance |
|----------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Net Sales | 11,907 | 25.6% | 5.7% | 12,263 | -2.9% |
| EBITDA | 1,791 | 47.8% | 12.5% | 1,785 | 0.3% |
| EBITDA Margin | 15.0% | 226 bps | 91 bps | 14.6% | 49 bps |
| Adj Net Profit | 1,255 | 64.8% | 32.3% | 1,139 | 10.2% |
| Adj EPS (Rs) | 4.28 | 64.8% | 32.3% | 3.88 | 10.2% |

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

(CMP as of 23rd May, 2025)

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| CMP (Rs) | 240 |
| Upside /Downside (%) | 13% |
| High/Low (Rs) | 265/190 |
| Market cap (Cr) | 70,359 |
| Avg. daily vol. (6m)Shrs. | 77,24,678 |
| No. of shares (Cr) | 293.65 |

Shareholding (%)

| | Sep-24 | Dec-24 | Mar-25 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Promoter | 51.5 | 51.5 | 51.5 |
| FII | 24.4 | 24.1 | 23.5 |
| Mutual Funds | 5.4 | 6.3 | 7.3 |
| Others | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

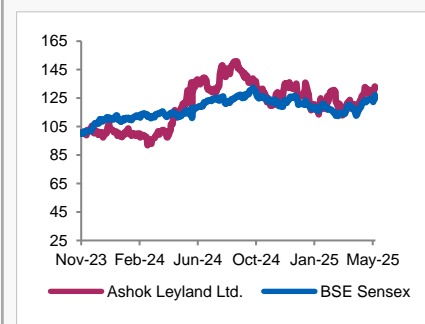
Financial & Valuations

| Y/E Mar (Rs Cr) | FY25 | FY26E | FY27E |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Net Sales | 38,753 | 41,020 | 43,499 |
| EBITDA | 4,931 | 5,522 | 5,875 |
| Adj. Net Profit | 3,224 | 3,565 | 3,803 |
| EPS (Rs.) | 11.3 | 12.5 | 13.4 |
| PER (x) | 21.2 | 19.2 | 18.0 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 12.2 | 11.3 | 10.1 |
| P/BV (x) | 5.8 | 4.5 | 3.7 |
| ROE (%) | 30.8 | 26.2 | 22.3 |

Change in Estimates (%)

| Y/E Mar | FY26E | FY27E |
|---------|-------|-------|
| Sales | -2.1% | -1.9% |
| EBITDA | 4.7% | 4.7% |
| PAT | 6.2% | 4.5% |

Relative Performance



Source: Ace Equity, Axis Securities

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Outlook

We remain positive on the long-term prospects of AL, factoring in gradual recovery in the MHCV industry momentum and segmental diversification. We, therefore, arrive at a sustainable long-term volume guidance of 5% CAGR volume growth over FY25-27E led by growth in export volumes. We estimate AL to post Revenue/EBITDA/PAT growth of 6%/9%/8% CAGR over FY25-27E on the back of incremental sales mix from non cyclical business.

Valuation & Recommendation

We maintain our **BUY** rating on the stock with the TP at Rs 270/share (earlier Rs 245/share); valuing the stock at 18x P/E on FY27E EPS (unchanged) and assigning Rs 27/share for stake in Hinduja Leyland Finance Ltd.

Key Highlights

Subsidiaries Scaling Up: Switch Mobility and OHM Global

Subsidiary Switch Mobility reported strong traction in Q4FY25, with sales of 287 electric buses and 300 electric LCVs. The company ended FY25 with an EBITDA margin of 6% and achieved double-digit margins in Q4. Its order book stands at 1,800 units, supported by product launches across geographies, including the Switch E1 in Europe and the GCC region, and the Switch EiV12 in India. OHM Global, another Ashok Leyland subsidiary, currently operates over 650 e-buses with fleet uptime exceeding 98% and plans to add 1,700 buses in FY26. The EV landscape in India is becoming increasingly favourable with state-led STU aggregations, robust payment security mechanisms, and accelerating adoption—all of which position Switch and OHM for further growth.

Strong Financial Performance and Capex Discipline

Ashok Leyland ended FY25 with a strengthened balance sheet and improved profitability. EBITDA margin for the year stood at 12.7%, up from 12% in FY24, supported by cost efficiencies. Material costs as a percentage of revenue dropped to 70.6%, the lowest in eight quarters. The company reported a strong cash position of Rs 4,242 Cr, a significant improvement from a net debt of Rs 89 Cr in FY24. FY25 capex stood at Rs 954 Cr, with Rs 1,000 Cr earmarked for FY26—primarily directed towards EVs and technological upgrades. Additionally, subsidiary investments are estimated at Rs 500–750 Cr for FY26, including allocations of Rs 100–200 Cr for Switch India, Rs 300–400 Cr for OHM, and the remainder for HLFL and other businesses.

Strategic Cost Leadership and Margin Resilience

Ashok Leyland continues to prioritise cost leadership and margin protection as central pillars of its strategy. The company is actively pursuing premiumization through value-added variants and segment-specific features to boost price realisation. It also targets another Rs 100 Cr in material cost savings for FY26, benefiting from favourable commodity trends such as declining rubber prices. A service differentiation initiative is underway to minimise vehicle downtime, enhancing value for CV customers. Although steel prices are expected to rise in early FY26, management remains confident in sustaining margins through internal cost efficiencies and operational improvements.

Hinduja Leyland Finance Ltd (HLFL): the company's financial services subsidiary, posted a 25% YoY increase in consolidated assets under management (AUM) to Rs 61,700 Cr. Profit after tax grew 21% YoY, while asset quality improved significantly with gross NPAs at 3.5% and net NPAs at 2.1%. Should regulatory demands from the Reserve Bank of India arise, Ashok Leyland may be required to support HLFL with additional growth capital.

Accelerating the EV and Alternative Fuel Strategy

Ashok Leyland is significantly ramping up its efforts in the electric vehicle (EV) and alternate fuel segments, with substantial investments planned for FY26. Key developments include the launch of six new LCV models, the introduction of Intelligent Vehicle Acceleration Control (IVAC) for MHCVs, and the rollout of fully built CNG buses along with 19T and 55T electric trucks. The company also showcased its EV Terminal Tractor and a 15-meter electric bus at Auto Expo 2025, both of which are slated for commercial production in FY26. To support EV innovation, a dedicated EV Centre of Excellence is now operational, focusing on core components such as batteries and motors.

Diversification Through Exports, Defence, and Aftermarket

Ashok Leyland continues to diversify its revenue base through robust growth in exports, defence, and aftermarket services. Export volumes rose 29% YoY in FY25 to 15,255 units, reflecting the company's growing international presence. The defence segment remained stable with a healthy order book outlook for FY26. Meanwhile, the aftermarket business performed strongly, with spare parts revenue increasing by 14% and engine volumes rising by 2%. The company also expanded its nationwide footprint, adding 214 new MHCV and LCV outlets in FY25, taking its total touchpoints across India to 1,889.

Dividend and Bonus

The Company has declared Bonus Shares in the ratio of 1:1. This is on the back of two interim dividends announced for FY25 amounting to a total 625%, or Rs. 6.25 per share.

Change in Estimates

| | Revised | | | Old | | | % Change | | |
|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|-------|-------|
| | FY25 | FY26E | FY27E | FY25 | FY26E | FY27E | FY25 | FY26E | FY27E |
| Sales | 38,753 | 41,020 | 43,499 | 39,398 | 41,882 | 44,342 | -1.6% | -2.1% | -1.9% |
| EBITDA | 4,931 | 5,522 | 5,875 | 4,812 | 5,275 | 5,613 | 2.5% | 4.7% | 4.7% |
| PAT | 3,224 | 3,565 | 3,803 | 2,930 | 3,358 | 3,638 | 10.1% | 6.2% | 4.5% |

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

Q4FY25 Results Review

| YE March (Rs Crs) | Q4FY24 | Q3FY25 | Axis Sec Estimates | Q4FY25 | YoY (%) | QoQ (%) | Axis Sec Var (%) |
|---|------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| M&HCV | 34,716 | 26,838 | | 36,056 | 3.9% | 34.3% | |
| LCV | 17,951 | 15,415 | | 17,660 | -1.6% | 14.6% | |
| Total Domestic | 52,667 | 42,253 | | 53,716 | 2.0% | 27.1% | |
| M&HCV | 2,433 | 3,220 | | 3,852 | 58.3% | 19.6% | |
| LCV | 1,169 | 931 | | 1,608 | 37.6% | 72.7% | |
| Total Exports | 3,602 | 4,151 | | 5,460 | 51.6% | 31.5% | |
| Total Volume (units) | 56,269 | 46,404 | | 59,176 | 5.2% | 27.5% | |
| | Q4FY24 | Q3FY25 | Axis Sec Estimates | Q4FY25 | YoY (%) | QoQ (%) | Axis Sec Var (%) |
| Net Sales | 11,267 | 9,479 | 12,263 | 11,907 | 5.7% | 25.6% | -2.9% |
| ASP (Rs/vehicle) | 20,02,291 | 20,42,641 | 20,72,371 | 20,12,084 | 0.5% | -1.5% | -2.9% |
| Less: | | | | | | | |
| Net Raw Material consumed | 8,091 | 6,774 | 8,805 | 8,403 | 3.9% | 24.0% | -4.6% |
| Other Manufacturing & Sales Exp. | 1,030 | 887 | 1,042 | 1,061 | 3.0% | 19.7% | 1.8% |
| Personnel | 554 | 606 | 631 | 651 | 17.7% | 7.4% | 3.2% |
| Total Expenditure | 9,675 | 8,267 | 10,479 | 10,116 | 4.6% | 22.4% | -3.5% |
| EBITDA | 1,592 | 1,211 | 1,785 | 1,791 | 12.5% | 47.8% | 0.3% |
| Less: Depreciation | 180 | 192 | 204 | 179 | -0.5% | -7.0% | -12.4% |
| EBIT | 1,412 | 1,019 | 1,581 | 1,612 | 14.1% | 58.2% | 2.0% |
| Less: Interest | 59 | 50 | 53 | 47 | -20.4% | -5.9% | -10.7% |
| Add: Other income | 118 | 25 | 11 | 106 | -10.2% | 328.7% | 835.8% |
| Profit Before Extraordinary Items and Tax | 1,471 | 994 | 1,539 | 1,671 | 13.6% | 68.1% | 8.6% |
| Less: Extraordinary Expense/(Income) | 70 | - | - | 14 | -80.4% | NA | NA |
| Profit Before Tax | 1,401 | 994 | 1,539 | 1,657 | 18.3% | 66.8% | 7.7% |
| Less: Total Tax | 501 | 232 | 400 | 411 | -17.9% | 77.3% | 2.8% |
| Profit After Tax | 900 | 762 | 1,139 | 1,246 | 38.4% | 63.6% | 9.4% |
| Adj. PAT | 949 | 762 | 1,139 | 1,255 | 32.3% | 64.8% | 10.2% |
| Shares Outstanding (cr) | 294 | 294 | 294 | 294 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Reported EPS (Rs.) | 3.1 | 2.6 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 38.4% | 63.6% | 9.4% |
| Adj. EPS (Rs.) | 3.2 | 2.6 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 32.3% | 64.8% | 10.2% |
| Margin Analysis | Q4FY24 | Q3FY25 | Axis Sec Estimates | Q4FY25 | Change in bps | Change in bps | Change in bps |
| Gross Margins | 28.2% | 28.5% | 28.2% | 29.4% | 124 bps | 90 bps | 123 bps |
| EBITDA Margin | 14.1% | 12.8% | 14.6% | 15.0% | 91 bps | 226 bps | 49 bps |
| Adj. NPM | 8.4% | 8.0% | 9.3% | 10.5% | 212 bps | 251 bps | 126 bps |
| Effective Tax Rate | 34.1% | 23.3% | 26.0% | 24.8% | -923 bps | 148 bps | -118 bps |
| Cost Analysis | | | | | | | |
| RM/Net Sales | 71.8% | 71.5% | 71.8% | 70.6% | -124 bps | -90 bps | -123 bps |
| Other Mfg & Sales Exp/Net Sales | 9.1% | 9.4% | 8.5% | 8.9% | -23 bps | -44 bps | 41 bps |
| Personnel/Net Sales | 4.9% | 6.40% | 5.1% | 5.5% | 56 bps | -93 bps | 33 bps |

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research.

Financials (Standalone)

Profit & Loss

(Rs Cr)

| Y/E March (Rs Cr) | FY24 | FY25 | FY26E | FY27E |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Net revenues | 38,367 | 38,753 | 41,020 | 43,499 |
| Operating expenses | 33,760 | 33,822 | 35,498 | 37,624 |
| EBIDTA | 4,607 | 4,931 | 5,522 | 5,875 |
| EBIDTA margin (%) | 12.0 | 12.7 | 13.5 | 13.5 |
| Other income | 247 | 250 | 234 | 234 |
| Interest | 249 | 217 | 165 | 199 |
| Depreciation | 718 | 719 | 798 | 798 |
| Profit Before Tax | 3,792 | 4,348 | 4,793 | 5,113 |
| Tax | 1,174 | 1,045 | 1,188 | 1,268 |
| Reported Net Profit | 2,618 | 3,303 | 3,605 | 3,845 |
| Net Margin (%) | 6.8 | 8.5 | 8.8 | 8.8 |
| Adjusted Net Profit | 2,618 | 3,224 | 3,565 | 3,803 |

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

Balance Sheet

(Rs Cr)

| Y/E March (Rs cr) | FY24 | FY25 | FY26E | FY27E |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Equity capital | 294 | 294 | 294 | 294 |
| Reserves & surplus | 8,517 | 11,526 | 14,838 | 18,389 |
| Shareholders' funds | 8,810 | 11,820 | 15,132 | 18,683 |
| Total Loans | 2,255 | 1,955 | 1,655 | 1,355 |
| Deferred tax liability | 556 | 556 | 556 | 556 |
| Total Liabilities and Equity | 11,621 | 14,331 | 17,342 | 20,594 |
| Gross block | 10,972 | 11,423 | 11,923 | 12,423 |
| Depreciation | 4,469 | 5,189 | 5,987 | 6,785 |
| Net block | 6,502 | 6,234 | 5,936 | 5,639 |
| Capital WIP | 202 | 250 | 250 | 250 |
| Investments | 5,560 | 5,760 | 5,960 | 6,160 |
| Inventory | 3,191 | 2,960 | 2,807 | 2,976 |
| Debtors | 3,570 | 4,035 | 3,933 | 4,171 |
| Cash & Bank Bal | 3,438 | 10,073 | 7,501 | 10,432 |
| Loans & Advances | 1,149 | 2,602 | 3,131 | 3,702 |
| Current Assets | 11,348 | 19,669 | 17,372 | 21,282 |
| Sundry Creditors | 6,305 | 12,821 | 7,294 | 7,731 |
| Other Current Liability | 5,685 | 4,761 | 4,881 | 5,005 |
| Current Liability & Provisions | 11,991 | 17,583 | 12,175 | 12,736 |
| Net current assets | (642) | 2,087 | 5,196 | 8,546 |
| Total Assets | 11,621 | 14,331 | 17,342 | 20,594 |

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research.

Cash Flow

(Rs Cr)

| Y/E March (Rs Cr) | FY24 | FY25 | FY26E | FY27E |
|---|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| EBIT | 3,889 | 4,211 | 4,724 | 5,077 |
| Other Income | 247 | 250 | 234 | 234 |
| Depreciation & Amortization | 718 | 719 | 798 | 798 |
| Interest paid (-) | -249 | -217 | -165 | -199 |
| Tax paid (-) | -1,174 | -1,045 | -1,188 | -1,268 |
| Extra Ord Income | -94 | 104 | 0 | 0 |
| Operating Cash Flow | 3,336 | 4,023 | 4,403 | 4,643 |
| Change in Working Capital | 1,958 | 3,906 | -5,682 | -418 |
| Cash flow from Operations | 5,294 | 7,928 | (1,279) | 4,225 |
| Capex | -354 | -500 | -500 | -500 |
| Investment | 1,104 | -200 | -200 | -200 |
| Cash flow from Investing | 749 | -700 | -700 | -700 |
| Change in borrowing | -926 | -300 | -300 | -300 |
| Others | -1,887 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dividends paid (-) | -294 | -294 | -294 | -294 |
| Cashflow from Financial Activities | -3,106 | -594 | -594 | -594 |
| Change in Cash | 2,937 | 6,635 | -2,572 | 2,931 |
| Opening cash | 501 | 3,438 | 10,073 | 7,501 |
| Closing cash | 3,438 | 10,073 | 7,501 | 10,432 |

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

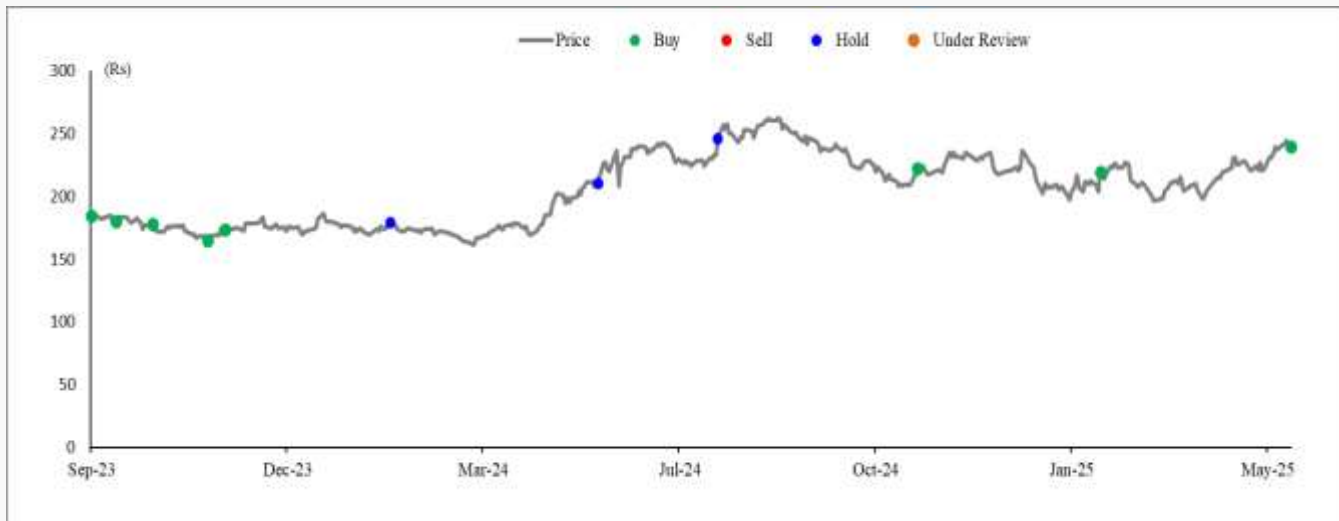
Ratio Analysis

(%)

| Y/E March | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY27E |
|---------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Revenue Growth | 6.2 | 1.0 | 5.9 | 6.0 |
| EBITDA Margin | 12.0 | 12.7 | 13.5 | 13.5 |
| Net Profit Margin | 6.8 | 8.3 | 8.7 | 8.7 |
| ROCE (%) | 22.6 | 25.2 | 22.6 | 20.3 |
| ROE (%) | 29.9 | 30.8 | 26.2 | 22.3 |
| EPS | 8.9 | 11.0 | 12.1 | 12.9 |
| P/E (x) | 19.2 | 21.9 | 19.8 | 18.6 |
| P/ BV (x) | 5.7 | 6.0 | 4.7 | 3.8 |
| EV/ EBITDA (x) | 10.6 | 14.0 | 11.7 | 10.4 |
| Fixed Assets Turnover Ratio (x) | 7.6 | 8.1 | 9.1 | 10.4 |
| Debt / Equity (x) | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| EV/ Sales (x) | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.4 |

Source: Company, Axis Securities Research

Ashok Leyland Price Chart and Recommendation History



Source: Axis Securities research

| Date | Reco | TP | Research |
|-----------|------|-----|----------------|
| 01-Jan-23 | BUY | 175 | Top Picks |
| 02-Feb-23 | BUY | 175 | Top Picks |
| 03-Feb-23 | BUY | 175 | Result Update |
| 01-Mar-23 | BUY | 175 | Top Picks |
| 01-Apr-23 | BUY | 175 | Top Picks |
| 01-May-23 | BUY | 175 | Top Picks |
| 24-May-23 | BUY | 175 | Result Update |
| 01-Jun-23 | BUY | 175 | Top Picks |
| 01-Jul-23 | BUY | 190 | Top Picks |
| 25-Jul-23 | BUY | 210 | Result Update |
| 01-Aug-23 | BUY | 210 | Top Picks |
| 01-Sep-23 | BUY | 210 | Top Picks |
| 15-Sep-23 | BUY | 210 | Company Update |
| 03-Oct-23 | BUY | 210 | Top Picks |
| 01-Nov-23 | BUY | 210 | Top Picks |
| 10-Nov-23 | BUY | 205 | Result Update |
| 06-Feb-24 | HOLD | 185 | Result Update |
| 27-May-24 | HOLD | 222 | Result Update |
| 29-Jul-24 | HOLD | 230 | Result Update |
| 11-Nov-24 | BUY | 250 | Result Update |
| 13-Feb-25 | BUY | 245 | Result Update |
| 26-May-25 | BUY | 270 | Result Update |

Source: Axis Securities Research

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|----------------|--|
| BUY | More than 10% |
| HOLD | Between 10% and -10% |
| SELL | Less than -10% |
| NOT RATED | We have forward looking estimates for the stock, but we refrain from assigning valuation and recommendation. |
| UNDER REVIEW | We will revisit our recommendation, valuation and estimates on the stock following recent events |
| NO STANCE | We do not have any forward-looking estimates, valuation or recommendation for the stock |

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