Long-Term Outlook Remains Intact; Maintain BUY

Est. Vs. Actual for Q1FY25: Revenue - MISS; EBITDA - MISS; PAT - MISS

Changes in Estimates post Q1FY25

CY24E/CY25E - Revenue NA*; EBITDA NA*; PAT NA*

(Due to change in reporting in the previous quarter)

Recommendation Rationale

- Weak set of numbers: Nestle posted a weak set of numbers led by merely 1% volume growth.
 However, overall Revenue grew by 4% YoY largely led by price hikes. Management reiterated five out of 12 brands saw double-digit, with the beverage portfolio seeing stronger growth. The company's Gross margins improved by 310bps YoY to 56.7% owing to softer RM(ex. Coffee/cocoa) and price hikes. The company reported an EBITDA margin of 23.2%, up 40bps YoY, while PAT grew 7% YoY to Rs 747 Cr.
- 'Rurban' strategy: The company reiterated that its 'Rurban' strategy has facilitated deeper
 penetration and distribution expansion in rural markets. It has successfully added over 800 new
 distribution touchpoints, including cash distributors, re-distributors, and wholesale hubs. As of
 June 2024, the company's reach extends to 205,000 villages, compared to 200,000 villages as
 of March 2024.

Sector Outlook: Positive

Company Outlook: Positive; We maintain our **BUY** recommendation on the stock as we remain positive about the company's future prospects, key downside risk to our call is continued volatility in coffee and cocoa prices.

Current Valuation: 70x June-26 EPS (Earlier: 70x CY25 EPS)
Current TP: Rs 2,800/share(Earlier TP: Rs 2,880/share)

Recommendation: With a 13% upside potential from the CMP, we maintain our BUY rating on the

stock.

Outlook

We remain positive on Nestle from a long-term perspective, as current challenges (lower volume growth and volatility in raw material prices) are expected to be short-term in nature. With the rural market likely to recover in the coming quarters, Nestle is poised to benefit significantly, given its substantial expansion in rural presence over the past three years, increasing its reach from 110k to 200k villages. Additionally, its long-term initiatives include: 1) Efforts toward rural penetration and market share gains through the RURBAN strategy, 2) Constant focus on innovation (launching 125 products in the last seven years), thereby driving growth, 3) Driving premiumization in core categories (e.g., Maggi noodles range) and launching differentiated products, 4) Entering new categories of the future (e.g., Nespresso, Purina Pet Care, and Gerber's for toddler nutrition), 5) Introducing a D2C platform to engage consumer attention, and 6) Renewed focus on its fast-growing nutraceutical portfolio. We believe Nestle has all the right levers for long-term growth.

Valuation & Recommendation

We expect Nestle's Sales, EBITDA, and PAT to grow at 12%, 14%, and 15% CAGR over CY22-FY27E, respectively. We maintain our BUY stance with a TP of Rs 2,800/share, representing a 13% upside from the CMP.

Key Financials (Standalone)

(Rs Cr)	Q1FY25	QoQ (%)	YoY (%)	Axis Est.	Variance (%)
Net Sales	4,793	(8.8)	3.8	5,066	(5.4)
EBITDA	1,114	(17.4)	5.6	1,179	(5.5)
EBITDA Margin (%)	23.2	-242 bps	40 bps	23.3	-2 bps
Net Profit	747	(20.1)	6.9	791	(5.6)
EPS (Rs)	8	(20.1)	6.9	8	(5.6)

Source: Company, Axis Research

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CMP (Rs)	2480
Upside /Downside (%)	13%
High/Low (Rs)	2770/2145
Market cap (Cr)	239149
Avg. daily vol.(6m)Shrs. '000	965
No. of shares (Cr)	96.4

Shareholding (%)

	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24
Promoter	62.8	62.8	62.8
FIIs	12.1	12.1	11.9
MFs / UTI	4.9	4.5	4.4
FIs/Banks	0.0	0.0	0.1
Others	20.2	20.7	20.9

Financial & Valuations

Y/E Mar (Rs Cr)	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net Sales	21,464	23,751	26,297
EBITDA	5,094	5,629	6,287
Net Profit	3,429	3,744	4,181
EPS (Rs)	35.6	38.8	43.4
PER (x)	69.7	63.9	57.2
EV/EBITDA (x)	47.0	42.3	37.7
P/BV (x)	57.4	45.9	35.7
ROE (%)	82.3	71.8	62.5

Change in Estimates (%)

Y/E Mar	FY25E	FY26E
Sales	NA	NA
EBITDA	NA	NA
PAT	NA	NA

ESG disclosure Score**

Environmental Disclosure	19.09
Social Disclosure Score	24.40
Governance Disclosure Score	78.60
Total ESG Disclosure Score	40.74
Sector Average	40.54

Source: Bloomberg, Scale: 0.1-100

Relative performance



Source: Ace Equity, Axis Securities

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^{**}Note: This score measures the amount of ESG data a company reports publicly and does not measure the company's performance on any data point. All scores are based on 2022 disclosures



Financial Performance

Nestle delivered a weak set of numbers. Domestic revenue grew by 4% YoY and exports de-grew 7% YoY. Gross margins improved by 303bps YoY to 56.7% owing to softer RM and price hikes. It reported EBITDA margins of 23.2%, up 40bps YoY. The company's adjusted PAT grew 7% YoY to Rs 747 cr.

Other Highlights

- Out of home: Despite the extreme weather conditions across India. Out-of-home business continued its growth momentum fuelled by portfolio transformation, innovations, penetration and premiumisation.
- Other channels: E-commerce continued its upward trajectory, contributing to 7.5% of domestic sales led by KITKAT, NESCAFE,
 MAGGI, Masala-Ae-Magic, MILKMAID and RTD. Their Masala-Ae-Magic and KITKAT portfolio grew by double-digit growth. Milk products and Nutrition portfolio also maintained growth.
- Organized Trade: Retail business grew in double digits, led by value-added noodles, beverages and overall premiumization.
- Export: Export business de-grew by 7% YoY in Q1FY25. Although it expanded its footprint by introducing new SKUs to USA
 markets, Canada, the Middle East and North Africa. In addition, they also introduced exports of breakfast cereals such as KOKO
 KRUNCH and NESTLE GOLD Oats and Corn Flakes.
- New Collaboration Nestle has made a successful collaboration with SOCIAL for the plant-based range. Also in addition, they
 have launched a new special Korean Noodles menu across all SOCIAL outlets pan India.

Product Performance

- Prepared Dishes and Cooking Aids has maintained its growth performance with innovations contributing to ~30% of the growth in Q1FY25.
- Confectionary: MUNCH continued to make regional inroads. Category-first initiatives were initiated on OTT platforms for KITKAT, while MUNCH entered a movie partnership.
- Beverages: The company's beverages portfolio performed robustly across all products. NESCAFÉ Sunrise gained traction in South India, strengthening NESCAFÉ's leadership position in the market with increased market share and significant household penetration gains. The recently launched NESCAFÉ Roastery has further bolstered the premium coffee portfolio, and NESCAFÉ Classic achieved double-digit growth.
- Petcare Business: Felix Wet Cat Food continued to receive positive responses from trade and cat parents. A strong focus on ecommerce and quick commerce has helped in reaching out to more pet families.

Key Risks to Our Estimates and TP

- · Increase in competitive intensity;
- RM inflation;
- · Weakening of demand environment



Change in Estimates

	Old est.		Revise	Revised est.		vision
	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	NA	NA	23,751	26,297	NA	NA
EBITDA	NA	NA	5,629	6,287	NA	NA
PAT	NA	NA	3,744	4,181	NA	NA
EPS (Rs)	NA	NA	39	43	NA	NA

Source: Company, Axis Securities

Results Review

(Rs Cr)	Q1FY24	Q4FY24	Axis Sec Est.	Q1FY25	YoY growth (%)	QoQ growth (%)	Axis Sec Est. (Var %)
Volume growth (% YoY)	5	5	5	1			•
Net Sales	4,620	5,254	5,066	4,793	3.8	(8.8)	(5.4)
Gross Profits	2,514	2,979	2,786	2,754	9.5	(7.5)	(1.2)
Gross Margin (%)	54.4	56.7	55.0	57.5	303 bps	78 bps	246 bps
Staff costs	457	487	503	505	10.5	3.8	0.5
Other operating expenses	1,041	1,156	1,124	1,155	11.0	(0.1)	2.8
EBITDA	1,056	1,349	1,179	1,114	5.6	(17.4)	(5.5)
EBITDA margin (%)	22.8	25.7	23.3	23.2	40 bps	-242 bps	-2 bps
Depreciation	107	109	114	113	5.0	3.5	(1.4)
Interest Cost	33	26	26	32	(3.4)	20.9	20.9
Other Income	24	27	31	39	63.3	46.2	27.2
PBT	939	1,241	1,069	1,009	7.4	(18.7)	(5.6)
Tax	241	316	278	262	8.9	(17.1)	(5.6)
Tax rate (%)	25.7	25.5	26.0	26.0	35 bps	50 bps	1 bps
Reported PAT	698	934	791	747	6.9	(20.1)	(5.6)
EPS (Rs.)	7	10	8	8	6.9	(20.1)	(5.6)

Source: Company, Axis Securities



Financials (Standalone)

Profit & Loss (Rs Cr)

Y/E Mar, Rs. cr	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net sales	24,275	21,464	23,751	26,297
Growth, %	45	(12)	11	11
Other operating income	118	107	117	129
Total income	24,394	21,570	23,868	26,426
Raw material expenses	(10,709)	(9,531)	(10,531)	(11,584)
Employee expenses	(2,336)	(2,032)	(2,256)	(2,504)
Other Operating expenses	(5,529)	(4,913)	(5,451)	(6,050)
EBITDA (Core)	5,820	5,094	5,629	6,287
Growth, %	57	(12)	11	12
Margin, %	24	24	24	24
Depreciation	(538)	(477)	(589)	(659)
EBIT	5,282	4,617	5,040	5,628
Growth, %	60	(13)	9	12
Margin, %	22	22	21	21
Interest paid	(145)	(116)	(122)	(128)
Other Income	148	133	141	150
Non-recurring Items	(4)	-	-	-
Pre-tax profit	5,280	4,634	5,059	5,650
Tax provided	(1,356)	(1,205)	(1,315)	(1,469)
Profit after tax	3,924	3,429	3,744	4,181
Unadj. shares (cr)	96	96	96	96

Source: Company, Axis Securities

Balance Sheet (Rs Cr)

Y/E Mar, Rs. Cr	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Cash & bank	779	(119)	837	2,336
Marketable securities at cost	40	40	40	40
Debtors	300	235	260	288
Inventory	2,089	1,847	2,044	2,263
Loans & advances	76	76	76	76
Other current assets	275	275	275	275
Total current assets	3,559	2,354	3,532	5,278
Investments	424	424	424	424
Gross fixed assets	6,119	8,319	9,319	10,319
Less: Depreciation	(2,658)	(3,135)	(3,724)	(4,383)
Add: Capital WIP	1,742	1,742	1,742	1,742
Net fixed assets	5,202	6,925	7,336	7,677
Non-current assets	1,338	1,338	1,338	1,338
Total assets	10,523	11,041	12,629	14,717
Current liabilities	3,918	3,947	4,216	4,516
Provisions	2,917	2,579	2,854	3,160
Total current liabilities	6,835	6,526	7,070	7,676
Non-current liabilities	347	347	347	347
Total liabilities	7,182	6,873	7,418	8,024
Paid-up capital	96	96	96	96
Reserves & surplus	3,244	4,071	5,115	6,597
Shareholders' equity	3,341	4,167	5,212	6,693
Total equity & liabilities	10,523	11,041	12,629	14,717

Source: Company, Axis Securities



Cash Flow (Rs Cr)

Y/E Mar, Rs. Cr	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Pre-tax profit	5,280	4,634	5,059	5,650
Depreciation	538	477	589	659
Chg in working capital	396	(2)	322	359
Total tax paid	(1,313)	(1,205)	(1,315)	(1,469)
Other operating activities	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from operating activities	4,901	3,905	4,655	5,199
Capital expenditure	(2,338)	(2,200)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Chg in investments	136	-	-	-
Chg in marketable securities	177	-	-	-
Other investing activities	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from investing activities	(2,024)	(2,200)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Free cash flow	2,877	1,705	3,655	4,199
Equity raised/(repaid)	(837)	-	-	-
Debt raised/(repaid)	(1)	-	-	-
Dividend (incl. tax)	(21,208)	(2,603)	(2,699)	(2,699)
Other financing activities	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from financing activities	(22,047)	(2,603)	(2,699)	(2,699)
Net chg in cash	(19,170)	(898)	956	1,499
Opening cash balance	946	779	(119)	837
Closing cash balance	779	(119)	837	2,336

Source: Company, Axis Securities

Ratio Analysis

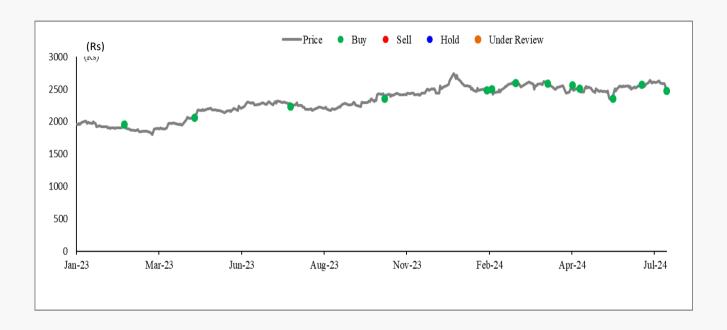
(%)

Y/E Mar	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
EPS (INR)	40.8	35.6	38.8	43.4
Growth, %	64.3	(12.7)	9.2	11.7
Book NAV/share (INR)	34.7	43.2	54.1	69.4
FDEPS (INR)	40.8	35.6	38.8	43.4
CEPS (INR)	46.4	40.5	44.9	50.2
CFPS (INR)	48.2	39.1	46.8	52.4
DPS (INR)	220.0	27.0	28.0	28.0
Return ratios				
Return on assets (%)	41.7	32.9	32.7	31.5
Return on equity (%)	117.6	82.3	71.8	62.5
Return on capital employed (%)	64.9	51.8	49.9	46.3
Turnover ratios				
Asset turnover (x)	7.7	4.8	4.5	4.7
Sales/Total assets (x)	2.5	2.0	2.0	1.9
Sales/Net FA (x)	5.6	3.5	3.3	3.5
Receivable days	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.0
Inventory days	31.4	31.4	31.4	31.4
Payable days	44.0	52.1	52.1	52.2
Working capital days	(17.7)	(25.7)	(24.0)	(22.4)
Liquidity ratios				
Current ratio (x)	0.9	0.6	0.8	1.2
Quick ratio (x)	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.7
Interest cover (x)	36.3	39.7	41.2	43.9
Total debt/Equity (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net debt/Equity (%)	(0.2)	0.0	(0.2)	(0.4)
Valuation				
PER (x)	60.9	69.7	63.9	57.2
PEG (x) - y-o-y growth	0.9	(5.5)	7.0	4.9
Price/Book (x)	71.6	57.4	45.9	35.7
EV/Net sales (x)	9.8	11.1	10.0	9.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	40.9	47.0	42.3	37.7
EV/EBIT (x)	45.1	51.8	47.3	42.1

Source: Company, Axis Securities



Nestle India Price Chart and Recommendation History



Date	Reco	TP	Research
17-Feb-23	BUY	22,00	Result Update
26-Apr-23	BUY	23,00	Result Update
28-Jul-23	BUY	24,60	Result Update
26-Oct-23	BUY	26,90	Result Update
02-Feb-24	BUY	2,800	Top Picks
08-Feb-24	BUY	2,800	Result Update
01-Mar-24	BUY	2,800	Top Picks
01-Apr-24	BUY	2,800	Top Picks
26-Apr-24	BUY	2,880	Result Update
02-May-24	BUY	2,880	Top Picks
03-Jun-24	BUY	2,880	Top Picks
01-Jul-24	BUY	2,880	Top Picks
26-Jul-24	BUY	2,800	Result Update

Source: Axis Securities



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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	

Note: Returns stated in the rating scale are our internal benchmark.

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