ArihantCapital

Q2FY25 Result update 6th Nov, 2024

Sterlite Technologies Ltd

BharatNet, BEAD and Data Centre will be the opportunity.

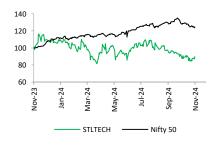
CMP: INR 122

Rating: BUY

Target Price: INR 160

| Stock Info | | |
|---|------|------------|
| BSE | | 532374 |
| NSE | | STLTECH |
| Bloomberg | | SOTL:IN |
| Reuters | | STTE.NS |
| Sector | | Cables |
| Face Value (INR) | | 2 |
| Equity Capital (INR mn) | | 975 |
| Mkt Cap (INR mn) | | 59,484 |
| 52w H/L (INR) | | 163 / 110 |
| Avg Yearly Volume (in 000') | | 2,970 |
| Shareholding Patte (As on Sep, 2024) | rn % | |
| Promoters | | 44.17 |
| Public & Others | | 55.83 |
| Stock Performance (%) | 3m | 6m 12m |
| STLTECH | -7.4 | -9.0 -10.2 |
| NIFTY | -3.7 | 7.9 24.7 |

STLTECH vs Nifty



Abhishek Jain abhishek.jain@arihantcapital.com 022-422548871

Balasubramanian A bala@arihantcapital.com 022-67114780 **Sterlite Technologies Ltd** reported numbers, Q2FY25 revenue de-grew by 5.4% YoY (+16% QoQ) to INR 14,130mn, above our estimates of INR 13,938mn. Gross Profit stood at INR 6,750mn (-17.2% YoY/+9% QoQ); below our estimates of INR 7,568mn. Gross margins contracted by 678 bps YoY (down by 305bps QoQ) to 47.8% vs 54.6% in Q2FY24. The raw material cost in terms of sales stood at 52.2% vs 45.4% in Q2FY24. EBITDA stood at INR 1,450mn (-31.9% YoY/+74.7% QoQ), above our estimates of INR 1,408mn. EBITDA margin contracted by 400bps YoY (up by 345 bps QoQ) to 10.3% vs 14.3% in Q2FY24. PAT stood at INR -130mn vs INR 260mn in Q2FY24; above our estimates of INR -110mn. PAT margin stood at -0.9% vs 1.7% in Q2FY24.

Key Highlights

Optical Networking business improved on QoQ basis: Optical networking business revenue stood at INR 10,270mn (-5.3% YoY/+26.8% QoQ); volumes were lower on YoY basis and improved YoY basis. EBIT Stood at INR 1,330mn (-37.0% YoY/+51.1% QoQ). EBIT margin contracted by 651 bps YoY (up by 209 bps QoQ) to 13% vs 19.5% in Q2FY24. EBITDA margins are expected to improve once utilization improves from 50% to 75%-80% going forward. The optical connectivity attach rate stood at 22% in Q2FY25. The company continuously working on new product development and commercialization in the optical connect space. BharatNet Phase III opportunity sizes are Capex – INR 650bn, Opex – INR 400-450bn. The cable and cable connectivity opportunity size is INR 40-50bn. The company has participated in 16 packages and tenders are expected to be complete by Q3FY25E.

Global services de-merger is expected by Q3FY25E/Q4FY25E: Global service business revenue stood at INR 3,560mn (-5.1% YoY/+0.3% QoQ); EBIT Stood at INR 240mn (+14.3% YoY/-4.0% QoQ). EBIT margin improved by 114 bps YoY (down by 30 bps QoQ) to 6.7% vs 5.6% in Q2FY24. In the global services business demerger, RD/company registrar and final NCLT approval is in progress. NCLT approval is expected in Dec-24/Jan-25 and allotment of shares is expected in Feb/Mar-25.

Digital and Technology solutions moving towards profitability: Digital and technology solutions revenue stood at INR 640mn (-17.9% YoY/-9.9% QoQ); EBIT Stood at INR -150mn vs INR -170mn in Q2FY24. STL digital order book stood at INR 3,660mn as of Q2FY25. In the STL digital business, despite the challenging environment, the company has witnessed deal flows from the US and India.

Order book leads to business visibility over the medium term: The order book stood at INR 86.3bn (-18% YoY/-12.7% QoQ) as of Q2FY25. Around INR 16.33bn is expected to be executed in H2FY25E and the remaining will be executable beyond FY26E.

Outlook & Valuation: Sterlite Technologies profitability has been impacted due to lower volumes led by inventory piled up with global operators and expected to clear in 1-2 quarters. We believe, BharatNet and BEAD program would lead to business opportunities. BharatNet Phase III tender announcement are expected in Q3FY25E and the company is expected to get significant orders. The interconnect attach rates stood at 22% in Q2FY25 and an increase in attach rates would improve the margins. The selective order intake and execution will improve the global service business and the digital business is expected to be profitable going forward. We believe BharatNet Phase III, BEAD program, telecom capex for 5G, and the upcoming 6G would provide business visibility. We upgrading to a "BUY" (earlier "ACCUMULATE") rating at a Target Price of INR 160 per share based on DCF; an upside of 30.8%.

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Q2FY25 Results

Income statement summary

| Particular (INR mn) | Q2FY24 | Q1FY25 | Q2FY25 | YoY (%) | QoQ (%) |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------|----------|
| Revenue | 14,940 | 12,180 | 14,130 | -5.4% | 16.0% |
| Net Raw Materials | 6,790 | 5,990 | 7,380 | 8.7% | 23.2% |
| Gross Profit | 8,150 | 6,190 | 6,750 | -17.2% | 9.0% |
| Gross Margin (%) | 54.6% | 50.8% | 47.8% | -678 bps | -305 bps |
| Employee Cost | 2,430 | 2,030 | 1,970 | -18.9% | -3.0% |
| Other Expenses | 3,590 | 3,330 | 3,330 | -7.2% | 0.0% |
| EBITDA | 2,130 | 830 | 1,450 | -31.9% | 74.7% |
| EBITDA Margin (%) | 14.3% | 6.8% | 10.3% | -400 bps | +345 bps |
| Depreciation | 850 | 820 | 830 | | |
| Interest expense | 950 | 710 | 840 | | |
| Other income | 30.0 | 90.0 | 60.0 | | |
| Share of profits associate & JV | 20 | - | - | | |
| Profit before tax | 380 | (610) | (160) | | |
| Taxes | 120 | (130) | (30) | | |
| РАТ | 260 | (480) | (130) | -150.0% | -72.9% |
| PAT Margin (%) | 1.7% | -3.9% | -0.9% | -266 bps | +302 bps |
| EPS (INR) | 0.7 | (1.0) | (0.3) | | |

Source: Company Reports, Arihant Capital Research

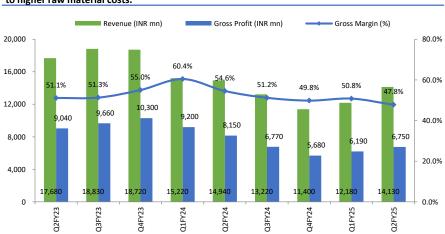
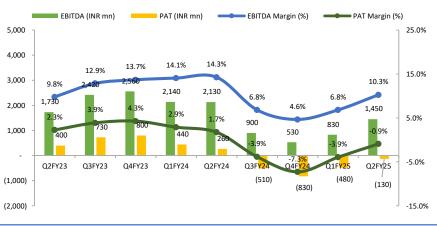


Exhibit 1: Gross margins contracted by 678 bps YoY (down by 305 bps QoQ) to 47.8% in Q2FY25 due to higher raw material costs.

Source: Company Reports, Arihant Capital Research

Exhibit 2: EBITDA margin contracted by 400 bps YoY (up by 345 bps QoQ) to 10.3% in Q2FY25. EBITDA margin majorly impacted by RM costs, however employee cost and other expenses slightly reduced in-terms of sales.



Source: Company Reports, Arihant Capital Research

Q2FY25 Concall Highlights

BharatNet Phase III

- In BharatNet Phase III, the company has participated in 16 packages. The company has participated directly in some of the packages and with partners in some of the packages.
- BharatNet Phase III opportunity sizes are Capex INR 650bn and Opex INR 400-450bn. The cable and cable connectivity opportunity size is INR 40-50bn.

Data Center

- Global peer's data center revenue share is around 30%-40% in the optical business. The company is targeting 25% of revenue share over the medium term.
- North American data center capacity is expected to grow 10% CAGR over the period of FY24-29E. Europe data center capacity is expected to grow 8.5% CAGR over the period of FY24-29E. The data center will be the key opportunity.

Market share

Global (ex-china) market share 8% in Q2FY25 compared to 6% in H1CY24.

Optical connectivity attach rate

 The optical connectivity attach rate stood at 22% in Q2FY25. The company continuously working on new product development and commercialization in the optical connect space.

Order book

 The order book stood at INR 86.3bn as of Q2FY25. Around INR 16.33bn is expected to be executed in H2FY25E and the remaining will be executable beyond FY26E.

Margins

 EBITDA margins are expected to improve once utilization improves from 50% to 75%-80% going forward.

Inventory

 In the US, inventory levels are coming down and it takes another 1-2 quarters to normalize.

De-merger

 RD/company registrar and final NCLT approval is in progress. NCLT approval is expected in Dec-24/Jan-25 and allotment of shares is expected in Feb/Mar-25.

STL digital

- STL digital order book stood at INR 3.36bn.
- In the STL digital business, despite the challenging environment, the company has witnessed deal flows from the US and India.

Q2FY25 Concall Highlights

Telangana project

 Telangana project is completed by 69%. The project is impacted due to the right of way in a forest area in Telangana, which requires necessary approvals from the state and central government. The fund involvement in the project is around INR 7bn.

Interest cost

 The increase in interest cost was due to necessary approval from the bank for demerger and expenses charged from the bank for giving NOC. The interest cost is expected INR 750—800mn on a quarterly basis.

Europe market

- There is no impact on the supply chain perspective due to Europe's antidumping duty and higher profitability is coming from Europe.
- The company expects strong growth in Germany and Poland over the next 3-5 years.

North America

- North America and India are projected to grow faster over the period of FY24-28E.
- North America is expected to grow 12% to 15% on an annual basis.

Other highlights

- The US Govt funding for broadband infra is around \$97bn which includes the BEAD program of \$42.5bn.
- BharatNet Phase III opportunity size is around 1.39L cr and 65k cr RFP is in progress.
- The company has 730 patents which are filed and granted. 10 new patents filed in Q2FY25.
- The company has launched AI-related products in IMC 2024.
- The company is well positioned to tap large opportunities in BharatNet Phase III and NHAI nationwide fibre network.

Q2FY25 Result Update

Sterlite Technologies Ltd

Outlook & Valuation: Sterlite Technologies profitability has been impacted due to lower volumes led by inventory piled up with global operators and expected to clear in 1-2 quarters. We believe, BharatNet and BEAD program would lead to business opportunities. BharatNet Phase III tender announcement are expected in Q3FY25E and the company is expected to get significant orders. The interconnect attach rates stood at 22% in Q2FY25 and an increase in attach rates would improve the margins. The selective order intake and execution will improve the global service business and the digital business is expected to be profitable going forward. We believe BharatNet Phase III, BEAD program, telecom capex for 5G, and the upcoming 6G would provide business visibility. We upgrading to a "BUY" (earlier "ACCUMULATE") rating at a Target Price of INR 160 per share based on DCF; an upside of 30.8%.

DCF Valuation

| Valuation Assumptions | | Valuation Data | | WACC | |
|---------------------------|------|--|--------|------|-------|
| g (World Economic Growth) | 3.5% | Total Debt (long term borrowings) (2024) | 10,510 | We | 85.0% |
| Rf | 7.1% | Cash & Cash Equivalents (2024) | 4,030 | Wd | 15.0% |
| Rm | 12% | Number of Diluted Shares (2024) | 488 | Ke | 12.5% |
| Beta | 1.1 | Tax Rate (2025) | 15% | Kd | 8.2% |
| СМР | 122 | Interest Expense Rate (2025) | 9.6% | | |
| | | MV of Equity | 59,484 | WACC | 11.8% |
| | | Total Debt | 10,510 | | |
| | | Total Capital | 69,994 | | |

| | | | | FCFF & | Target Pr | ice | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|------------|---------|----------|---------|
| FCFF & Target Price | Explicit Forecast Period | | | | Linear Decline Phase | | | Т | erminal Yr | | | |
| Particular (INR mn) | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 | 2033 | 2034 | 2035 | 2036 |
| EBIT * (1-Tax Rate) | 1,142 | 2,646 | 4,208 | 5,895 | 7,193 | 8,121 | 9,042 | 9,926 | 10,740 | 11,452 | 12,032 | 12,454 |
| Dep | 3,441 | 3,625 | 3,811 | 3,939 | 3,984 | 4,028 | 5,178 | 5,684 | 6,150 | 6,559 | 6,891 | 7,132 |
| Purchase of Assets | (3,073) | (3,104) | (3,135) | (2,157) | (749) | (741) | (825) | (906) | (980) | (1,045) | (1,098) | (1,137) |
| Changes in Working Capital | (1,803) | (1,893) | (2,881) | (3,746) | (3,047) | (3,289) | (3,165) | (3,474) | (3,759) | (4,008) | (4,211) | (4,359) |
| FCFF | (294) | 1,273 | 2,003 | 3,932 | 7,381 | 8,119 | 10,230 | 11,230 | 12,151 | 12,957 | 13,614 | 14,090 |
| Terminal Value | | | | | | | | | | | 1,68,863 | |
| Total Cash Flow | (294) | 1,273 | 2,003 | 3,932 | 7,381 | 8,119 | 10,230 | 11,230 | 12,151 | 12,957 | 1,82,477 | |
| Enterprise Value (EV) | | 84,2 | 260 | | | | | | | | | |
| Less: Debt | | 10, | 510 | | | | | | | | | |
| Add: Cash | | 4,0 | 030 | | | | | | | | | |
| Equity Value | | 77, | 780 | | | | | | | | | |
| Equity Value per share (INR) | | : | 160 | | | | | | | | | |
| % Returns | | 30. | 8% | | | | | | | | | |
| Rating | | B | JY | | | | | | | | | |

Sensitivity Analysis

| | | Terminal Growth (%) | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| | 160 | 2.5% | 2.8% | 3.0% | 3.3% | 3.5% | 3.8% | 4.0% | 4.3% | 4.5% | |
| | 10.8% | 174 | 178 | 183 | 188 | 193 | 199 | 206 | 212 | 220 | |
| | 11.0% | 166 | 171 | 175 | 180 | 185 | 190 | 196 | 202 | 209 | |
| | 11.3% | 160 | 164 | 168 | 172 | 177 | 182 | 187 | 193 | 199 | |
| (%) | 11.5% | 153 | 157 | 161 | 165 | 169 | 174 | 179 | 184 | 189 | |
| ပ္ပ | 11.8% | 147 | 151 | 154 | 158 | 162 | 166 | 171 | 176 | 181 | |
| WACC | 12.0% | 142 | 145 | 148 | 152 | 155 | 159 | 163 | 168 | 173 | |
| | 12.3% | 137 | 139 | 143 | 146 | 149 | 153 | 157 | 161 | 165 | |
| | 12.5% | 132 | 134 | 137 | 140 | 143 | 147 | 150 | 154 | 158 | |
| | 12.8% | 127 | 129 | 132 | 135 | 138 | 141 | 144 | 148 | 151 | |

Source: Company reports, Arihant Capital Research

Financial Statements

| Income statement summary | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------------|---------|---------|
| Y/e 31 Mar (INR mn) | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY27E |
| Revenue | 48,252 | 57,543 | 69,250 | 54,780 | 53,282 | 61,893 | 70,495 |
| Net Raw Materials | 23,949 | 28,646 | 32,990 | 24,990 | 26,268 | 29,895 | 33,485 |
| Employee Cost | 6,474 | 8,707 | 9,120 | 9,520 | 8,578 | 9,532 | 10,504 |
| Other Expenses | 9,722 | 14,842 | 18,240 | 14,570 | 13,652 | 15,730 | 17,744 |
| EBITDA | 8,107 | 5,348 | 8,900 | 5,700 | 4,784 | 6,738 | 8,762 |
| EBITDA Margin (%) | 16.8% | 9.3% | 12.9% | 10.4% | 9.0% | 10.9% | 12.4% |
| Depreciation | (2,853) | (3,255) | (3,090) | (3,350) | (3,441) | (3,625) | (3,811) |
| Interest expense | (2,030) | (2,414) | (3,110) | (3,690) | (3 <i>,</i> 050) | (2,634) | (2,526) |
| Other income | 430 | 593 | 410 | 570 | 440 | 511 | 582 |
| Profit before tax | 3,802 | 482 | 3,150 | (730) | (1,267) | 989 | 3,006 |
| Taxes | (1,113) | (147) | (840) | 90 | 190 | (249) | (758) |
| PAT | 2,690 | 334 | 2,310 | (640) | (1,077) | 740 | 2,249 |
| PAT Margin (%) | 5.6% | 0.6% | 3.3% | -1.2% | -2.0% | 1.2% | 3.2% |
| Other Comprehensive income | 415 | 107 | (140) | 290 | - | - | - |
| Net profit | 3,105 | 441 | 2,170 | (350) | (1,077) | 740 | 2,249 |
| EPS (INR) | 6.8 | 0.8 | 5.8 | (1.6) | (2.2) | 1.5 | 4.6 |

Source: Company Reports, Arihant Capital Research

| Balance sheet summary | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Y/e 31 Mar (INR mn) | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY27E |
| Equity capital | 793 | 796 | 800 | 800 | 975 | 975 | 975 |
| Reserves | 19,081 | 18,771 | 20,110 | 19,430 | 28,176 | 28,768 | 30,567 |
| Net worth | 19,874 | 19,567 | 20,910 | 20,230 | 29,151 | 29,743 | 31,542 |
| Minority Interest | 981 | 857 | 40 | - | - | - | - |
| Provisions | 110 | 253 | 660 | 390 | 146 | 170 | 193 |
| Debt | 35,279 | 37,857 | 41,030 | 35,820 | 27,720 | 27,160 | 25,460 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 1,567 | 1,303 | 980 | 770 | 799 | 928 | 1,057 |
| Total Liabilities | 57,811 | 59,837 | 63,620 | 57,210 | 57,817 | 58,001 | 58,253 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Fixed assets | 27,828 | 28,554 | 28,540 | 28,390 | 28,069 | 27,518 | 26,811 |
| Capital Work In Progress | 2,272 | 1,424 | 1,290 | 620 | 573 | 604 | 635 |
| Other Intangible assets | 991 | 1,866 | 1,670 | 1,420 | 1,420 | 1,420 | 1,420 |
| Goodwill | 2,921 | 2,960 | 2,250 | 2,280 | 2,280 | 2,280 | 2,280 |
| Investments | 1,319 | 1,096 | 1,070 | 960 | 799 | 928 | 1,057 |
| Other non current assets | 569 | 1,695 | 1,740 | 3,200 | 1,225 | 1,424 | 1,410 |
| Net working capital | 17,251 | 15,849 | 20,410 | 14,600 | 16,403 | 18,296 | 21,177 |
| Inventories | 6,264 | 9,202 | 8 <i>,</i> 320 | 8,220 | 7,916 | 8,600 | 8,991 |
| Sundry debtors | 14,514 | 17,065 | 18,220 | 15,980 | 15,036 | 16,618 | 18,734 |
| Loans & Advances | 148 | 45 | 30 | 10 | 53 | 62 | 70 |
| Other current assets | 19,240 | 17,151 | 18,870 | 16,490 | 15,328 | 16,957 | 18,541 |
| Sundry creditors | (19,437) | (24,200) | (21,520) | (21,780) | (19,266) | (21,156) | (21,987) |
| Other current liabilities & Prov | (3,479) | (3,413) | (3,510) | (4,320) | (2,664) | (2 <i>,</i> 785) | (3,172) |
| Cash | 2,484 | 5,296 | 5,070 | 4,030 | 5,714 | 3,984 | 1,771 |
| Other Financial Assets | 2,177 | 1,096 | 1,580 | 1,710 | 1,332 | 1,547 | 1,692 |
| Total Assets | 57,811 | 59,837 | 63,620 | 57,210 | 57,817 | 58,001 | 58,253 |

Source: Company Reports, Arihant Capital Research

| Du-Pont Analysis | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Y/e 31 Mar | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY27E |
| Tax burden (x) | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Interest burden (x) | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.5 | (0.3) | (0.9) | 0.3 | 0.6 |
| EBIT margin (x) | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Asset turnover (x) | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| Financial leverage (x) | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| RoE (%) | 13.8% | 1.7% | 11.4% | -3.1% | -4.4% | 2.5% | 7.3% |

Source: Company Reports, Arihant Capital Research

Financial Statements

| Cashflow summary | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Y/e 31 Mar (INR mn) | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY27E |
| Profit before tax | 3,802 | 482 | 3,150 | (730) | (1,267) | 989 | 3,006 |
| Depreciation | 2,853 | 3,255 | 3,090 | 3,350 | 3,441 | 3,625 | 3,811 |
| Tax paid | (1,113) | (147) | (840) | 90 | 190 | (249) | (758) |
| Working capital Δ | (2,034) | 1,401 | (4,561) | 5,810 | (1,803) | (1,893) | (2,881) |
| Change in Goodwill | (1,703) | (40) | 710 | (30) | - | - | - |
| Operating cashflow | 1,805 | 4,951 | 1,550 | 8,490 | 561 | 2,472 | 3,179 |
| Capital expenditure | (3,222) | (3,133) | (2,942) | (2,530) | (3,073) | (3,104) | (3,135) |
| Free cash flow | (1,417) | 1,818 | (1,392) | 5,960 | (2,512) | (633) | 44 |
| Equity raised | (687) | 29 | (1 <i>,</i> 584) | 330 | 9,998 | (0) | - |
| Investments | (167) | 223 | 26 | 110 | 161 | (129) | (129) |
| Others | 1,062 | (920) | (333) | (1,340) | 2,352 | (413) | (131) |
| Debt financing/disposal | 2,246 | 2,578 | 3,173 | (5,210) | (8,100) | (560) | (1,700) |
| Dividends paid | (1,378) | (794) | (200) | (410) | - | (148) | (450) |
| Other items | 378 | (121) | 84 | (480) | (215) | 153 | 153 |
| Net ∆ in cash | 38 | 2,812 | (226) | (1,040) | 1,684 | (1,730) | (2,213) |
| Opening Cash Flow | 2,445 | 2,484 | 5,296 | 5,070 | 4,030 | 5,714 | 3,984 |
| Closing Cash Flow | 2,484 | 5,296 | 5,070 | 4,030 | 5,714 | 3,984 | 1,771 |

Source: Company Reports, Arihant Capital Research

| Ratio analysis | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| Y/e 31 Mar | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY278 |
| Growth matrix (%) | | | | | | | |
| Revenue growth | -6.4% | 19.3% | 20.3% | -20.9% | -2.7% | 16.2% | 13.9% |
| Op profit growth | -24.2% | -34.0% | 66.4% | -36.0% | -16.1% | 40.8% | 30.0% |
| Profitability ratios (%) | | | | | | | |
| OPM | 16.8% | 9.3% | 12.9% | 10.4% | 9.0% | 10.9% | 12.4% |
| Net profit margin | 5.6% | 0.6% | 3.3% | -1.2% | -2.0% | 1.2% | 3.2% |
| RoCE | 7.5% | 3.3% | 7.6% | 2.7% | 4.8% | 7.2% | 9.7% |
| RoNW | 13.8% | 1.7% | 11.4% | -4.4% | 2.5% | 7.3% | 11.7% |
| RoA | 4.7% | 0.6% | 3.6% | -1.9% | 1.3% | 3.9% | 6.3% |
| Per share ratios (INR) | | | | | | | |
| EPS | 7.8 | 1.1 | 5.4 | (0.9) | (2.2) | 1.5 | 4.6 |
| Dividend per share | 3.5 | 2.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 | - | 0.3 | 0.9 |
| Cash EPS | 14.0 | 9.0 | 13.5 | 6.8 | 4.8 | 9.0 | 12.4 |
| Book value per share | 50.1 | 49.2 | 52.3 | 50.6 | 59.8 | 61.0 | 64.7 |
| Valuation ratios (x) | | | | | | | |
| P/E | 15.6 | 110.0 | 22.5 | - | - | 80.4 | 26.5 |
| P/CEPS | 8.7 | 13.5 | 9.0 | 18.0 | 25.2 | 13.6 | 9.8 |
| P/B | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 |
| EV/EBITDA | 9.9 | 15.0 | 9.4 | 14.0 | 16.9 | 12.1 | 9.4 |
| Payout (%) | | | | | | | |
| Dividend payout | 51.2% | 237.5% | 8.7% | -64.1% | 0.0% | 20.0% | 20.0% |
| Tax payout | 29.3% | 30.6% | 26.7% | 12.3% | 15.0% | 25.2% | 25.29 |
| Liquidity ratios | | | | | | | |
| Debtor days | 114 | 100 | 93 | 114 | 106 | 93 | 9 |
| Inventory days | 82 | 99 | 97 | 121 | 112 | 101 | 90 |
| Creditor days | 153 | 153 | 138 | 161 | 154 | 134 | 123 |
| WC Days | 43 | 46 | 52 | 74 | 64 | 60 | 6 |
| Leverage ratios (x) | | | | | | | |
| Interest coverage | 2.6 | 0.9 | 1.9 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 1.2 | 2.0 |
| Net debt / equity | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Net debt / op. profit | 4.0 | 6.1 | 4.0 | 5.6 | 4.6 | 3.4 | 2.7 |

Source: Company Reports, Arihant Capital Research

Story in Charts

Exhibit 3: Inventory levels is expected to clear in next 1-2 quarters and demand will be normalize. BharatNet and BEAD would be a key triggers.

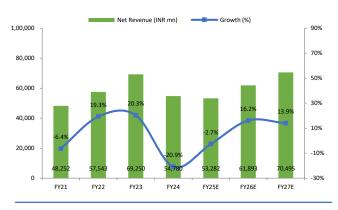


Exhibit 5: Growth in EBITDA & PAT levels

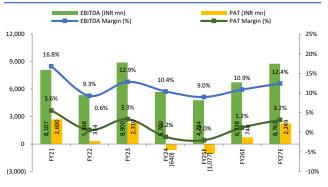
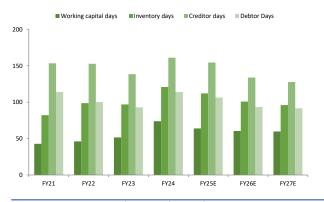


Exhibit 7: Working capital days to be improve



Source: Company reports, Arihant Capital Research

Exhibit 4: Softening of RM costs will lead to improvement in gross margins.

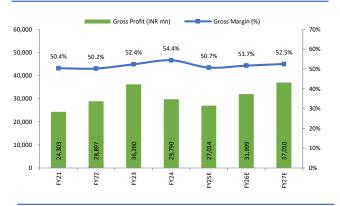


Exhibit 6: Return ratios to be improve

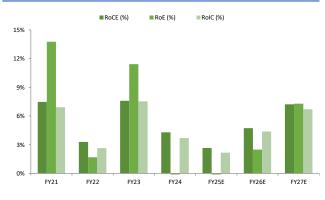
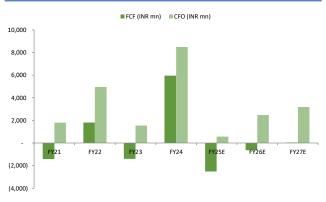


Exhibit 8: Cash flows to be improve



Story in Charts

Exhibit 9: Working capital in-terms of sales is expected to maintain going forward.

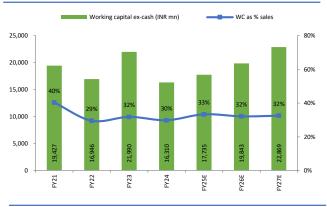


Exhibit 11: The inventory build-up in North America is expected to liquidate in 1-2 quarters. Post that, Optical networking business is expected to pick-up.

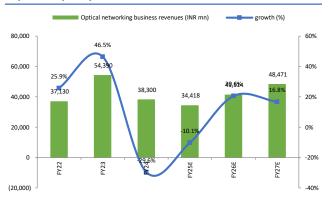
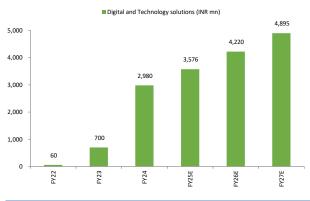


Exhibit 13: Digital and Technology solutions has strong order book of INR 3.36bn shows potential revenue visibility.



Source: Company reports, Arihant Capital Research

Exhibit 10: Interest cost as % of EBIT is expected to reduce going forward.

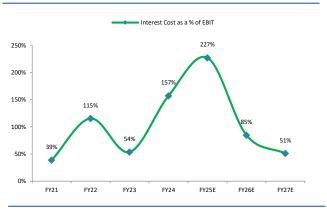


Exhibit 12: Selective order intake and execution will improve global service business going forward.

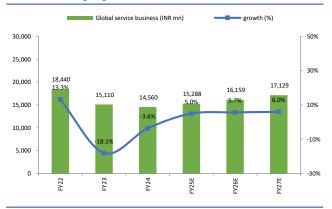


Exhibit 14: R&D expenses are expected to be 3.3%-3.4% of sales going forward.



Story in Charts

Exhibit 15: The order book stood at 86.3bn (-18% YoY/-12.7% QoQ) as of Q2FY25.

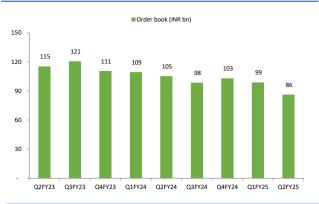
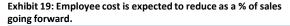
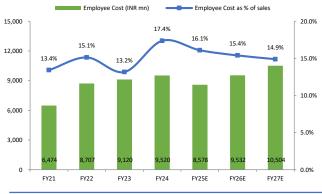


Exhibit 17: Global services margins are expected around 8%-10% going forward.







Source: Company reports, Arihant Capital Research

Exhibit 16: Optical networking margins were impacted due to lower utilization and volumes on YoY basis and improved on QoQ basis. The profitability is expected to back at 75%-80% capacity utilization.

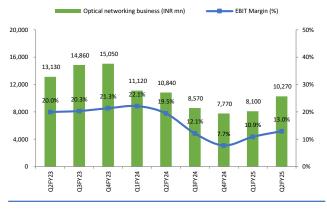


Exhibit 18: Digital and Technology services moving towards profitability.

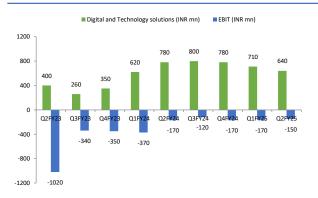


Exhibit 20: The company has reduced to INR 21.69bn would improve balance sheet and reduce interest cost going forward.



Q2FY25 Result Update

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| | Absolute Return |
| BUY | >20% |
| ACCUMULATE | 12% to 20% |
| HOLD | 5% to 12% |
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