

Result Update 19th May 2025

UPL Ltd.

Differentiated Products Mix Expected to Drive Margin Expansion

CMP: INR 644
Rating: BUY

Target Price: INR 800

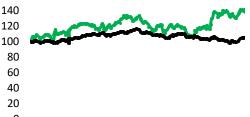
Stock Info	
BSE	512070
NSE	UPL
Bloomberg	UPLL:IN
Sector	Agrochemicals
Face Value (INR)	2
Equity Capital (INR Bn)	159
Mkt Cap (INR Bn)	547
52w H/L (INR)	699 / 459
Avg Yearly Volume (in 000')	3,036

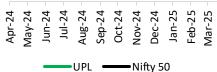
Shareholding Pat (As on Mar, 2025)	tern 🤄	%	
Promoters			33.50
FIIs			34.22
DIIs			18.56
Public & Others			13.72
St I. D f (0/)	a	C	43

Stock Performance (%)	1m	6m	12m
UPL	-1.15	2.42	36.48
NIFTY	4.32	-8.83	4.71

UPL vs Nifty

160





Abhishek Jain

abhishek.jain@arihantcapital.com 022-422548871 UPL has again posted Net profit of INR 10.8 bn on account of strong volume growth of 11% YoY and price increase of 1% YoY in Q4FY25. FY25 Revenue grew by 8% to INR 466.4 Bn, led by volume growth in crop protection, seeds and specialty chemical markets. Revenues came at INR 155.7 bn (up by 42.8% QoQ / 10.6% YoY) against above our estimates of INR 149.4 bn. EBITDA for Q4FY25 stood at INR 31.91 bn (up by 63.1% QoQ/ 72.7% YoY) against our estimates of INR 29.458 bn. EBITDA Margins expanded by 256 bps QoQ & 736 bps YoY to 20.5%, against our estimates of 19.7%. Q4FY25 PAT reported was INR 10.8 bn against PAT of INR 8.5 bn in Q3FY25 and Net Loss of 0.8bn in Q4FY24, below our estimates of Net Profit of INR 15.3 bn. The Volumes grew by 11% YoY and 1% increase in prices in Q4FY25.

Focus on Innovative and Differentiated Solutions:

The company has a R&D pipeline and IP portfolio, with 2,700+ patents and more than 30% of its offerings being IP protected. In FY25, new products launched generated \$93 Mn+ in sales, exceeding the target of \$85 Mn and contributing ~2% to total revenue. 80% of new revenue from product launches falls into the differentiated or sustainable category, which carries a higher margin profile, typically 600 to 1000 bps above the post-patent segment. This segment saw its volume growth by 21% in FY25, improving its overall mix to 38%, up from 35% in FY24. The company aims to increase this mix to 45-50% by FY27.Innovation rate was 14% in FY25 and expects to increase to 17.5% in FY26, with a long-term target of reaching 24-25% by the end of the decade. For India, the innovation rate is already at 20%+ and is projected to exceed 35% in the next 3 years. Shift towards a 50-50 mix between conventional and differentiated/sustainable products by FY27-FY28 is expected to drive margin expansion and create significant value for the company.

Resilient Revenue Growth and Strong Performance in Specialty Chemicals:

Company's specialty revenue grew by 6% YoY reaching over INR 100 Bn for FY25. The company's growth stands out, as many of its peers in a tough global market had stagnant or declining revenues, with some shrinking significantly. A driver of this growth was the specialty chemicals business, expanding by an impressive 24% to INR 17,000 Mn. Furthermore, UPL entered into 6 binding and non-binding agreements last year, which hold a potential revenue of up to 20,000 annually, signaling strong future revenue streams. The launch of seven new products in specialty chemicals and agricultural products during the last year further solidifies its commitment to market expansion.

Operational Efficiency and Debt Reductions:

The company achieved a substantial reduction in net working capital days from 86 days in FY24 to 53 days in FY25, a decrease of 33 days. This efficiency gain resulted in a working capital release of INR 33.7 Bn. The improvement was driven by a significant reduction in inventories (down by 27 days to 81 days) and improved collection against receivable through tighter credit controls. Consequently, UPL successfully reduced its net debt by INR 83.3 Bn (\sim \$1.04 Bn) during the year, bringing the total net debt down to INR 138.6 Bn (\$1.62 Bn).

Valuation and Outlook:

UPL has again posted Net profit of INR 10.8 bn on account of strong volume growth of 11% YoY and price increase of 1% YoY in Q4FY25. FY25 Revenue grew by 8% to INR 466.4 Bn, led by volume growth in crop protection, seeds and specialty chemical markets. Q1 and Q2 is expected to be subdued due to ongoing geopolitical situations. Revenue growth in the range of 4-8% and EBITDA growth of 10-14% for FY26. North America, Latin America, and potentially the Rest of the World regions are expected to show stronger growth within the 4-8% range. The industry is expected to be roughly flat overall, with some volume growth and potentially slight price degrowth, but we expect that the company will outperform the industry. Hence, we remain positive on UPL Ltd, valuing the company at 6.5x EV/EBITDA of its revised FY28E EBITDA of INR 124 bn, with a revised target price of INR 800 per share giving an upside of 24.2% from current levels with BUY ratings.

Financial Performance

Valuation summary (Rs Bn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Net Sales	431	466	538	592	651
EBIDTA	55	81	102	112	124
Net Profit	(16)	13	38	47	80
PAT Adj	0	18	31	38	70
Diluted EPS	0.4	24.3	41.4	50.9	88.1
P/E (x)	1,914.5	29.4	17.3	14.0	8.1
EV/EBIDTA (x)	13.8	8.3	7.0	6.3	4.1
P/BV (x)	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.4	0.9
RoE (%)	0.1	6.1	9.2	10.5	17.7
Debt/Equity (x)	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3

Particulars (Consolidated) (In INR Mn)	Q4FY25	Q3FY25	Q4FY24	Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y
Revenue from Operations	1,55,730	1,09,070	1,40,780	42.8%	10.6%
Raw Material Costs	85,510	53,290	90,090	60.5%	-5.1%
Gross Profit	70,220	55,780	50,690	25.9%	38.5%
Gross Margin (%)	45.1%	51.1%	36.0%	-11.8%	25.2%
Employee Cost	14,510	11,840	10,360	22.6%	40.1%
Other Exp	23,800	24,380	21,850	-2.4%	8.9%
EBITDA	31,910	19,560	18,480	63.1%	72.7%
EBITDA Margin %	20.5%	17.9%	13.1%	255.7	736.4
Depreciation	7,050	6,880	7,940	2.5%	-11.2%
EBIT	24,860	12,680	10,540	96.1%	135.9%
Other Income	1,070	1,700	1,260	-37.1%	-15.1%
Finance costs	9,140	7,300	10,900	25.2%	-16.1%
РВТ	16,790	7,080	900	137.1%	1765.6%
Share of (loss)/profit from JV	(270)	(2,780)	450	-90.3%	-160.0%
Exceptional Items	2,750	760	1,050	261.8%	161.9%
Total taxes	2,980	(4,990)	1,100	-159.7%	170.9%
PAT	10,790	8,530	(800)	26.5%	NA
PAT Margin (%)	6.9%	7.8%	-16.3%	-89.2	2318.2

Q4FY25 Concall Highlights

 Sold a 12.5% stake in Advanta Seeds to Alpha Wave Global for INR 30.4 Bn (\$350 Mn), valuing the seed business at \$2.8 Bn.

- Global Crop Protection business showed strong recovery with an 11% revenue growth for FY25. North America's
 revenue grew by 84% and 67% for Q4 and FY25 respectively. Europe registered 25% in Q4 and 19% in FY25. Latin
 America saw 15% volume growth for FY25. Rest of the World recorded 3% revenue growth.
- Volume growth was 13% across the portfolio, partially offset by price reduction of 3% and exchange impact of 2%.
- · Strong performance in herbicides and fungicides
- Differentiated and sustainable product's volumes grew by 23%YoY. Targeting a mix of 45-50% differentiated and sustainable products by FY27, up from the current 38%.
- New product launches generated \$93+ Mn in sales, ~2% of total revenue. The company's innovation rate is ~14%, with 38% of products being differentiated and sustainable.
- Strong focus on R&D with 2,700+ patents, with more than 30% being IP protected. Advanta Seeds has a pipeline of 900 hybrid seeds across 40+ crops.
- Channel de-stocking is believed to be complete in most major markets with normalized ordering patterns.
- Differentiated and Sustainable segment grew by 21% in volume and 11% in revenue YoY, contributing 38% of the business Vs 35% in FY24.
- The company has set an ambitious target of \$130+ Mn in revenue from new product launches in FY26.
- They are focusing on the NPP business with an expected CAGR of ~13% between FY25 and FY30, with a commitment to deliver \$700 Mn of revenue in this segment by FY27.
- Created a new specialty chemicals business called "Superform", derives 75% of revenue from agriculture and NPP, with 25% from specialty chemicals, animal health, and nutrition.
- Also created a new segment called "EthoMax" in Advanta Seeds focused on corn varieties with higher starch content, specifically designed for ethanol production.
- Expects strong farmgate demand but anticipates headwinds from low agricultural commodity prices to persist. Key
 active ingredient prices have stabilized, with the company anticipating flat to slightly lower costs on internally
 sourced active ingredients in FY26.
- Crop protection and sustainability pipeline with an estimated value of ~ \$4.3 Bn at peak sales, of which ~\$1.5 Bn in annual sales is expected by FY30. The company has 26 molecules in its development pipeline with several new entrants and 17 new solutions platforms.
- The company will launch 20+ new products across all regions in FY26, with the bulk of new product launch revenue expected from North America, Latin America, and Europe.
- Working capital days improved from early 80s to mid-50s, with management suggesting a mid-60s level should be modeled going forward.
- Specialty chemicals was growth driver with 24% growth in FY25 and is expected to continue its momentum.
- Signed 6 binding and non-binding agreements with potential to generate 20,000 Mn in annual revenue. It launched 7 products across specialty chemicals and agricultural products.
- The innovation rate in FY25 was 14%, with expectations to reach 17.5% in FY26 and 24-25% by the end of the decade.
- Latin America showed strong performance, particularly in Mexico, Central America, and Brazil, though Argentina remained challenging.
- For India, management expects both volume growth and some price growth (1-2%) in the coming year, with innovation rates currently at 20% and expected to exceed 35% in the next 3 years.
- Sustainable and differentiated technologies represent ~80% of all new revenue from product launches, with a target to achieve a 50-50 mix by FY27-FY28.

Financial Statements

Income Statement (INR Mn)	Mar-23	Mar-24	Mar-25	Mar 26E	Mar 27E	Mar 28E
Net sales	5,35,750	4,30,980	4,66,370	5,37,947	5,91,742	6,50,916
Growth (%)	15.9	(19.6)	8.2	15.3	10.0	10.0
Operating expenses	(4,24,160)	(3,75,830)	(3,85,170)	(4,35,737)	(4,79,311)	(5,27,242)
EBITDA	1,11,590	55,150	81,200	1,02,210	1,12,431	1,23,674
EBITDA Margin %	20.8%	12.8%	17.4%	19.0%	19.0%	19.0%
Growth (%)	9.8	(50.6)	47.2	25.9	10.0	10.0
Depreciation	(25,470)	(27,630)	(27,500)	(29,537)	(32,624)	(36,374)
Other income	4,770	4,830	4,860	4,884	4,909	4,933
ЕВІТ	90,890	32,350	58,560	77,557	84,716	92,234
Finance cost	(29,630)	(38,520)	(36,270)	(31,450)	(27,950)	0
Exceptional & extradordinary	(11,340)	(12,280)	(9,280)	0	0	0
Profit before tax	49,920	(18,450)	13,010	46,107	56,767	92,234
Tax (current + deferred)	(7,360)	2,090	(90)	(8,299)	(10,218)	(12,201)
P / L form discontinuing operations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Profit / (Loss) for the period	42,560	(16,360)	12,920	37,808	46,549	80,033
PAT Margin %	7.9%	-3.8%	2.8%	7.0%	7.9%	12.3%
P/L of Associates, Min Int, Pref Div	(6,870)	4,360	(3,970)	(6,779)	(8,370)	(10,013)
Reported Profit / (Loss)	35,690	(12,000)	8,950	31,029	38,179	70,020
Adjusted net profit	47,030	280	18,230	31,029	38,179	70,020

Balance Sheet (INR Mn)	Mar-23	Mar-24	Mar-25	Mar 26E	Mar 27E	Mar 28E
Share capital	1,500	1,500	1,590	1,590	1,590	1,590
Reserves & surplus	2,96,940	2,76,430	3,20,400	3,48,406	3,77,737	4,12,415
Shareholders' funds	2,98,440	2,77,930	3,21,990	3,49,996	3,79,327	4,14,005
Minority Intersts and others	55,850	49,130	56,270	56,270	56,270	56,270
Non-current liablities	2,41,110	2,79,790	2,16,070	1,91,070	1,66,070	1,41,070
Long-term borrowings	2,01,440	2,40,100	1,82,630	1,57,630	1,32,630	1,07,630
Other non-current liabilities	39,670	39,690	33,440	33,440	33,440	33,440
Current liabilities	2,90,370	2,68,610	2,85,690	2,42,556	2,61,796	2,79,899
ST borrowings, Curr maturity	28,550	44,280	54,510	54,510	54,510	54,510
Other current liabilities	2,61,820	2,24,330	2,31,180	1,88,046	2,07,286	2,25,389
Total (Equity and Liabilities)	8,85,770	8,75,460	8,80,020	8,39,892	8,63,463	8,91,243
Non-current assets	4,65,890	4,82,470	4,83,850	4,95,630	5,06,329	5,12,158
Fixed assets (Net block)	2,07,270	2,05,720	1,96,310	2,08,443	2,16,146	2,18,717
Non-current Investments	16,180	19,220	20,520	20,520	20,520	20,520
Long-term loans and advances	570	230	210	5,379	5,917	6,509
Other non-current assets	2,41,870	2,57,300	2,66,810	2,61,288	2,63,746	2,66,412
Current assets	4,19,880	3,92,990	3,96,170	3,44,261	3,57,134	3,79,085
Cash & current investment	60,970	60,360	95,370	37,094	19,250	7,412
Other current assets	3,58,910	3,32,630	3,00,800	3,07,168	3,37,884	3,71,673
Total (Assets)	8,85,770	8,75,460	8,80,020	8,39,892	8,63,463	8,91,243
Total debt	2,29,990	2,84,380	2,37,140	2,12,140	1,87,140	1,62,140
Capital employed	6,23,950	6,51,130	6,48,840	6,51,846	6,56,177	6,65,855

Financial Statements

Cash Flow Statement (INR Mn)	Mar-23	Mar-24	Mar 25E	Mar 26E	Mar 27E	Mar 28E
Profit before tax	49,920	(18,450)	13,010	46,107	56,767	92,234
Depreciation	25,470	27,630	27,500	29,537	32,624	36,374
Change in working capital	910	(9,180)	38,190	(54,671)	(12,015)	(16,278)
Total tax paid	(13,340)	(7,810)	(1,520)	(8,299)	(10,218)	(12,201)
Others	20,140	24,860	33,690	31,410	26,567	23,043
Cash flow from oper. (a)	87,820	25,880	1,08,590	39,241	90,200	95,195
Capital expenditure	(37,360)	(26,080)	(18,090)	(41,670)	(40,326)	(38,945)
Change in investments	(4,880)	(3,040)	(1,300)	0	0	0
Others	6,730	1,600	(2,470)	10,407	2,451	2,267
Cash flow from inv. (b)	(35,510)	(27,520)	(21,860)	(31,263)	(37,875)	(36,677)
Free cash flow (a+b)	52,310	(1,640)	86,730	7,979	52,326	58,518
Equity raised/(repaid)	(30)	0	90	0	0	0
Debt raised/(repaid)	(28,670)	54,390	(47,240)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)
Dividend (incl. tax)	(9,959)	3,828	(3,023)	(8,847)	(10,892)	(13,006)
Others	(13,881)	(57,188)	(1,547)	(32,404)	(34,273)	(32,349)
Cash flow from fin. (c)	(52,540)	1,030	(51,720)	(66,251)	(70,166)	(70,355)
Net chg in cash (a+b+c)	(230)	(610)	35,010	(58,272)	(17,840)	(11,837)

Key ratios

Key Ratios (%)	Mar-23	Mar-24	Mar 25E	Mar 26E	Mar 27E	Mar 28E
Adjusted EPS (Rs)	62.7	0.4	24.3	41.4	50.9	88.1
Growth	4.6	(99.4)	6,410.7	70.2	23.0	73.0
CEPS (Rs)	96.7	37.2	61.0	80.8	94.4	212.8
Book NAV/share (Rs)	397.9	370.6	429.3	466.7	505.8	828.0
Dividend/share (Rs)	10.0	10.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	12.0
Dividend payout ratio	27.9	31.9	33.8	28.5	28.5	18.6
EBITDA margin	20.8	12.8	17.4	19.0	19.0	19.0
Taxrate	12.0	33.9	0.4	18.0	18.0	13.2
RoCE	15.0	5.1	9.0	11.9	13.0	14.0
Total debt/Equity (x)	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	1.5	4.1	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.3
Net debt/Equity (x)	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Du Pont Analysis - ROE						
Net margin	8.8	0.1	3.9	5.8	6.5	10.8
Asset turnover (x)	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7
Leverage factor (x)	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.2
Return on equity	17.3	0.1	6.1	9.2	10.5	17.7

Valuations						
Valuations (x)	Mar-23	Mar-24	Mar 25E	Mar 26E	Mar 27E	Mar 28E
PER	11.4	1,914.5	29.4	17.3	14.0	8.1
PCE	7.4	19.2	11.7	8.9	7.6	3.4
Price/Book	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.4	0.9
Yield (%)	1.6	(0.6)	0.5	1.4	1.7	3.1
EV/EBITDA	6.3	13.8	8.3	7.0	6.3	4.1

Arihant Research Desk

Email: instresearch@arihantcapital.com

Tel.: 022-42254800

Head Office	Registered Office
#1011, Solitaire Corporate Park	
Building No. 10, 1 st Floor	6 Lad Colony,
Andheri Ghatkopar Link Road	Y.N. Road,
Chakala, Andheri (E)	Indore - 452003, (M.P.)
Mumbai – 400093	Tel: (91-731) 4217100/101
Tel: (91-22) 42254800	CIN: L66120MP1992PLC007182

Stock Rating Scale	Absolute Return
BUY	>20%
ACCUMULATE	12% to 20%
HOLD	5% to 12%
NEUTRAL	-5% to 5%
REDUCE	-5% to -12%
SELL	<-12%

Research Analyst Registration No.	Contact	Website	Email Id
INH000002764	SMS: 'Arihant' to 56677	www.arihantcapital.com	instresearch@arihantcapital.com

Arihant Capital Markets Ltd.

1011, Solitaire Corporate park, Building No. 10, 1st Floor, Andheri Ghatkopar Link Road, Chakala, Andheri (E) Tel. 022-42254800

Disclaimer: This disclosure statement is provided in compliance with the SEBI Research Analyst Regulations, 2014. Arihant Capital Markets Limited (ACML) is a registered stockbroker, merchant banker, and research analyst under SEBI, and is also a Point of Presence with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA). ACML is registered with SEBI with Research Analyst Registration Number INH000002764, Stock Broker Registration Number INZ000180939, and is a Trading Member with NSE, BSE, MCX, NCDEX, and a Depository Participant with CDSL and NSDL.

ACML and its associates may have business relationships, including investment banking, with companies covered by its Investment Research Department. The analysts of ACML, and their associates, are prohibited from holding a financial interest in securities or derivatives of companies they cover, though they may hold stock in the companies they analyze. The recommendations provided by ACML's research team are based on technical and derivative analysis and may differ from fundamental research reports.

ACML confirms that neither it nor its associates have a financial interest or material conflict concerning the companies covered in the research report at the time of publication. Furthermore, ACML, its analysts, and their relatives have no ownership greater than 1% in the subject companies as of the month prior to publication. ACML guarantees that the compensation for its research analysts is not influenced by specific securities or transactions.

ACML affirms that neither the analyst nor the company has served as an officer, director, employee, or engaged in market-making activities for any of the subject companies. Additionally, the research report does not reflect any conflict of interest and is not influenced by specific recommendations made. Neither ACML nor its analysts have received compensation for investment banking or brokerage services from the subject companies in the last 12 months.

The views expressed in this report are those of the analysts and are independent of the proprietary trading desk of ACML, which operates separately to maintain an unbiased stance. Analysts comply with SEBI Regulations when offering recommendations or opinions through public media. The report is intended for informational purposes only and is not an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of securities.

This report, which is confidential, may not be reproduced or shared without written consent from ACML. It is based on publicly available data believed to be reliable but has not been independently verified, and no guarantees are made about its accuracy. All opinions and information contained in the report are subject to change without notice. ACML disclaims liability for any losses resulting from reliance on this report. The report does not constitute an offer to buy or sell securities, and ACML is not responsible for the risks involved in investments. ACML and its affiliates may have positions in the securities discussed or hold other financial interests in them.

The distribution of this report in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law, and the report is not intended for distribution where it would violate local laws. Investors are advised to consider their financial position, risk tolerance, and investment objectives before engaging in transactions, particularly in high-risk financial products such as derivatives.

ACML reserves the right to modify this disclosure statement without prior notice. The report has been prepared using publicly available information and internally developed data, though ACML does not guarantee its completeness or accuracy. Historical price data for securities can be accessed via official exchanges like NSE or BSE. ACML and its affiliates may conduct proprietary transactions or investment banking services for the companies mentioned in this report. In compliance with SEBI regulations, ACML maintains comprehensive records of research reports, recommendations, and the rationale for those recommendations, which are preserved for at least five years. An annual compliance audit is conducted by a member of the ICAI or ICSI to ensure adherence to applicable regulations. This report is issued in accordance with applicable SEBI regulations and does not guarantee future performance or returns.

Arihant Capital Markets Ltd.

1011, Solitaire Corporate park, Building No. 10, 1st Floor, Andheri Ghatkopar Link Road, Chakala, Andheri (E) Tel. 022-42254800