

**RESEARCH**
**BOB Economics Research | India Economic Outlook**

Lower rates, liquidity to drive cyclical recovery

**Plastic Products**

Anti-dumping duty on CPVC – Astral Poly a key beneficiary

**SUMMARY**
**India Economics: India Economic Outlook**

The downturn in global and domestic economy is mirrored in India's consumption, investment and export slowdown. A growth revival requires lower interest rates and liquidity. Transmission of RBI's rate cuts has started and PSB recap and liquidity for MSMEs and NBFCs will ensure a cyclical recovery in FY21. The global backdrop of lower oil prices favours dip in interest rates and inflation and a stable INR. Depreciation of Yuan remains a key risk. We see headroom for another 40bps rate cut by RBI in FY20 to support 7% GDP growth in FY21.

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**Plastic Products**

India's finance ministry has imposed provisional anti-dumping duty (ADD) on CPVC resin/compounds imported from China and Korea for a period of six months starting 26 August. All imports from these countries must now be within the notified range of US\$ 2,031-2,849/MT. We believe this duty augurs well for larger, organised domestic pipe players such as ASTRA (~35% of revenues from CPVC), SI (~10-12%) and FNXP (~8%), by way of spurring potentially higher volumes and inventory gains in H2FY20.

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**TOP PICKS**
**LARGE-CAP IDEAS**

Company	Rating	Target
<a href="#">Cipla</a>	Buy	595
<a href="#">GAIL</a>	Buy	175
<a href="#">ONGC</a>	Buy	175
<a href="#">TCS</a>	Add	2,360
<a href="#">HPCL</a>	Sell	200

**MID-CAP IDEAS**

Company	Rating	Target
<a href="#">Balkrishna Ind</a>	Buy	1,290
<a href="#">Future Supply</a>	Buy	715
<a href="#">Greenply Industries</a>	Buy	195
<a href="#">Laurus Labs</a>	Buy	480
<a href="#">PNC Infratech</a>	Buy	250

Source: BOBCAPS Research

**DAILY MACRO INDICATORS**

Indicator	Current	2D (%)	1M (%)	12M (%)
US 10Y yield (%)	1.47	(6bps)	(60bps)	(141bps)
India 10Y yield (%)	6.53	5bps	1bps	(137bps)
USD/INR	71.48	0.7	(3.7)	(2.0)
Brent Crude (US\$/bbl)	59.51	1.4	(6.2)	(21.6)
Dow	25,778	(0.5)	(5.2)	(1.1)
Shanghai	2,902	1.3	(1.4)	4.5
Sensex	37,641	0.4	(0.6)	(3.2)
India FII (US\$ mn)	26 Aug	MTD	CYTD	FYTD
FII-D	45.0	1,034.2	3,688.2	3,143.5
FII-E	(97.9)	(1,867.6)	7,537.1	691.9

Source: Bank of Baroda Economics Research

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## INDIA ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

28 August 2019

### Lower rates, liquidity to drive cyclical recovery

The downturn in global and domestic economy is mirrored in India's consumption, investment and export slowdown. A growth revival requires lower interest rates and liquidity. Transmission of RBI's rate cuts has started and PSB recap and liquidity for MSMEs and NBFCs will ensure a cyclical recovery in FY21. The global backdrop of lower oil prices favours dip in interest rates and inflation and a stable INR. Depreciation of Yuan remains a key risk. We see headroom for another 40bps rate cut by RBI in FY20 to support 7% GDP growth in FY21.

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**Investment and consumption slowdown:** Consumption demand, the driving force behind India's growth, has exhibited lukewarm growth since Q3FY19 following a drop in discretionary buying. Investment demand too has decelerated due to lower aggregate demand, global slowdown and scarce credit.

**Reviving the growth engine:** RBI has reduced the repo rate by 110bps to 5.4% in CYTD19 and now provided ample liquidity at Rs 1.5tn (Aug'19). But transmission has been slow. With external benchmarking of loans this will improve and reduce loan EMIs, leaving a greater portion of incomes for consumption or savings/investments. This apart, Rs 100tn of investment is planned in the five years by the Centre to revive growth.

**Reforms to lift growth to 7%:** The Centre's revenue receipts rose 6.4% in Q1FY20. Indirect tax revenues were up 4%. A slowdown implies limited upside for revenue receipts. While fiscal stimulus may revive consumption in the near term, reforms such as improving 'ease of doing business', changes in the IBC Act, liquidity provision for NBFCs/ MSMEs, privatisation and PSB recap (Rs 700bn), Jalan committee surplus and excess provision transfer (Rs 1.76tn) are enablers that will revive growth to 7% in FY21 in our view.

**Global backdrop favourable:** Low global interest rates and oil prices set a favourable backdrop for India. Digitisation of the global economy opens up opportunities for India's digital ecosystem. Services exports, though decelerating, are holding up much better as the global services economy is outperforming the manufacturing economy

**INR stable, yields to fall:** Lower oil prices are a boon for the INR. FPI outflows typically do not last for more than 3-6 months. Another 40bps rate cut by RBI and lower domestic yields could kickstart growth, as was the case in 2003/2009.



## PLASTIC PRODUCTS

28 August 2019

### Anti-dumping duty on CPVC – Astral Poly a key beneficiary

India's finance ministry has imposed provisional anti-dumping duty (ADD) on CPVC resin/compounds imported from China and Korea for a period of six months starting 26 August. All imports from these countries must now be within the notified range of US\$ 2,031-2,849/MT. We believe this duty augurs well for larger, organised domestic pipe players such as ASTRA (~35% of revenues from CPVC), SI (~10-12%) and FNXP (~8%), by way of spurring potentially higher volumes and inventory gains in H2FY20.

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- Volumes in the Indian CPVC market total ~162,450MT (FY18), of which the domestic industry accounts for ~2.4% and the balance is sourced from imports. China and Korea account for ~30% of CPVC resin/compound volumes imported into the country – tripling from 10% in FY15, as per finance ministry data.
- Our industry interactions indicate that regional and smaller players form a bulk of the buyers for Chinese and Korean CPVC resin/compound. The imposition of ADD will compel these players to take price hikes, thus making them uncompetitive against bigger organised players (who import majorly from US and Japan), by substantially narrowing the price differential.
- The duty in turn could prompt major Japan and US-based suppliers to take some price hikes, albeit nominal as they will look to draw volume share away from Chinese and Korean suppliers.
- We believe larger, organised domestic pipe players who source their raw material from markets like Japan and USA will be key beneficiaries of the new duty, led by better volume growth in H2FY20 as demand shifts away from Chinese/Korean CPVC users. Among our coverage stocks, Astral Poly Technik (ASTRA) stands to gain the most with ~35% of consolidated revenues derived from CPVC, followed by Supreme Industries (SI: ~10-12% share) and Finolex Industries (FNXP: ~8%).

Benefits beyond H2 will depend on continuation of the duty for more than six months. Some inventory gains may also accrue to CPVC players in near-term if their resin/compound suppliers take price hikes in the immediate future.

#### KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Ticker	Price	Target	Rating
SI IN	1,143	1,135	ADD
FNXP IN	517	560	ADD
ASTRA IN	1,285	1,195	REDUCE

Price &amp; Target in Rupees



## Disclaimer

### Recommendations and Absolute returns (%) over 12 months

**BUY** – Expected return >+15%

**ADD** – Expected return from >+5% to +15%

**REDUCE** – Expected return from -5% to +5%

**SELL** – Expected return <-5%

**Note:** Recommendation structure changed with effect from 1 January 2018 (Hold rating discontinued and replaced by Add / Reduce)

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