

RESEARCH**BOB ECONOMICS RESEARCH | MONTHLY CHARTBOOK**

Tariff hazes market and macro outlook

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES | TARGET: Rs 3,304 | -2% | HOLD

Slowdown intensified. Impacting multiple sectors and margins

CEMENT | Q1FY26 PREVIEW

Good start for the year; monsoon holds the key

INSURANCE | Q1FY26 PREVIEW

A mixed quarter

PHARMACEUTICALS | Q1FY26 PREVIEW

Healthy quarter for non-Revlimid companies

SUMMARY**INDIA ECONOMICS: MONTHLY CHARTBOOK**

On global front, tariff jitters are blindsiding growth-inflation dynamics. With fresh commodity specific and country-specific tariff rates being anticipated, inflationary concerns have again reignited. Recent Fed minutes also highlighted it as a hindrance to monetary policy easing. Based on the underlying murky global backdrop, domestic markets are likely to exhibit some degree of volatility. Key risks remain to FPI flows. Domestic macro indicators are suggesting that growth is holding ground. Both services and manufacturing PMIs have improved, other consumption and service sectors indicators are also showing momentum in Q1 versus Q4.

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TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

- 1QFY26 was weaker than expected on both international and BSNL fronts. Even BFSI on a QoQ basis was impacted (Europe driven)
- While the narrative was that there was no deterioration beyond what was indicated post 4QFY25, the weakness intensified
- Retain estimates, target PE multiple and rating. While valuation from a historical 5-year perspective looks cheap, see no immediate triggers

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CEMENT: Q1FY26 PREVIEW

- A healthy ~9% (coverage universe) demand, driven by improved rural sentiment and lower base YoY on general elections in May 2024
- Cement prices hiked early in Q1 failed to continue its momentum due to early onset of the monsoon, realisations
- Avg EBITDA margin (cement coverage) estimated at ~22% up by ~500 bps on weak base YoY (+150bps QoQ), EBITDA/t at ~Rs 1,164

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INSURANCE: Q1FY26 PREVIEW

- For our coverage private players and LIC, APE is likely to grow moderate at 6% YoY in Q1FY26
- VNB margin is likely to witness expansion during the quarter for most of the players, private players, and LIC in the range of 100-300bps YoY
- HDFC Life is expected to report healthy APE growth, better margins on a balanced product mix

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- Domestic sales driven by new product launches and price hike. Insulin players like Eris/Lupin benefit from outgoing Novo's pen based insulin
- In US, Revlimid selling companies to report lower growth vs non-Revlimid companies. The gap unlikely to be filled soon by new launches
- In CDMOs, growth to be driven across companies as molecules swiftly move from one phase to another, leading to record commercialisation

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MONTHLY CHARTBOOK

10 July 2025

Tariff hazes market and macro outlook

On global front, tariff jitters are blindsiding growth-inflation dynamics. With fresh commodity specific and country-specific tariff rates being anticipated, inflationary concerns have again reignited. Recent Fed minutes also highlighted it as a hindrance to monetary policy easing. Based on the underlying murky global backdrop, domestic markets are likely to exhibit some degree of volatility. Key risks remain to FPI flows. Domestic macro indicators are suggesting that growth is holding ground. Both services and manufacturing PMIs have improved, other consumption and service sectors indicators are also showing momentum in Q1 versus Q4.

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Capital goods production, capex spending and new project announcements in Q1 fared well. However, some strains can be seen in performance of 2-wheeler sales, and moderation in consumer durables and FMCG output. However, domestic inflation remains in favour which hints at softer monetary policy.

Growth remains on track: High frequency data available for Q1FY26 so far shows that consumption demand appears to be improving compared with last quarter. This is reflective in rise in steel consumption growth, increase in electronic imports, and higher central government revenue spending. Services indicators are also showing a pickup in activity, as can be seen in case of services PMI, vehicle registrations, diesel consumption, revenue collection of states and e-way bill generations. Monsoon activity is also healthy at 15% above LPA so far (as of 9 Jul 2025).

Central government finances: Centre's fiscal deficit ratio (12MMA trailing basis) eased to 4.5% as of May'25 from 4.6% as of Apr'25. In FYTD26 (Apr-May), centre's net revenue increased by 11.3%, slightly slower than 14.5% growth registered last year during the same period. Moderation was led by direct tax collections, which came off a high base (12.9% versus 34.1%). Indirect tax collections also eased (4.3% versus 6.3%). On the spending front, overall expenditure softened to 4.8% from 5.9% last year. This was on account of capital expenditure, which eased to 10.9% from a high base of 28.3% last year. In contrast, revenue expenditure rose by 3.1% from 1.2% earlier. For now we believe, government remains on track to meet its budgeted targets.

Yields to remain rangebound: India's 10Y yield after a moderate correction in Jun'25 is showing bit of stability in Jul'25. This month broadly India's 10Y yield is likely to trade sideways cautiously without showing much momentum. Key watchable would be the evolution of global tariff policies and the likely impact on global yields. RBI's liquidity management operations through VRRR will be closely looked.



HOLD

TP: Rs 3,304 | ▼ 2%

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

| IT Services

| 11 July 2025

Slowdown intensified. Impacting multiple sectors and margins

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- While the narrative was that there was no deterioration beyond what was indicated post 4QFY25, the weakness intensified
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Worse than the positive narrative: Much against the industry perspective that the worst was largely behind in 4QFY25, it looks like that uncertainty's impact on demand intensified in 1QFY26 leading to even sectors like BFSI declining on a QoQ basis. BSNL contract too declined QoQ much more than what the company indicated in the previous quarter. The slowdown intensification has caught TCS by surprise leading to lowering of Utilization and therefore impacting its margins adversely. Thus, against our flat growth revenue estimate in CC terms, TCS delivered a 3.3% decline and an EBIT margin (which improved 30bps QoQ) that was lower than our expectation by 70bps.

Key sectors declined QoQ: The three largest sectors, BFSI, consumer and Healthcare and Lifesciences, declined by 0.5%, 2.2% and 1.7% QoQ in CC terms respectively. India declined by ~33% (comes under regional markets) and drove the 3.3% QoQ revenue decline overall. International revenues contributed 50bps to the 330bps decline while 280bps came from India. The YoY picture is a tad different.

Company expects clarity by end July 2025. We are not as sanguine: While there is likely to be a kicker in a follow through order of BSNL (us\$350mn) to be largely executed in 2Q and 3Q. We expect international business to be under pressure as we believe the uncertainty will linger as indicated in our recent note ([Uncertainty stays and 'eating the tariff' may impact even FY27](#)). While optically in USD terms the annual growth seems to have picked up due to cross currency tailwinds, on a CC basis, we believe international business will struggle to show growth in FY26

The company is talking of a pent-up demand uptick: In the past these upticks have been post sharp declines in tech spending. What we see here is a shallow weakness and hence do not expect a major rebound. Hence, we expect a growth pick up to mid-single digits in FY27 and FY28 but not a rebound to high single digits.

Not sure if TCS's performance should be applicable to others too: The readthrough for TCS's peers is not too good. But there could be variations across players based on their vertical mix and customer set.

Key changes

| Target | Rating |
|--------|--------|
| ▲ | ◀ ▶ |

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Ticker/Price | TCS IN/Rs 3,382 |
| Market cap | US\$ 142.9bn |
| Free float | 28% |
| 3M ADV | US\$ 96.6mn |
| 52wk high/low | Rs 4,592/Rs 3,056 |
| Promoter/FPI/DII | 72%/12%/11% |

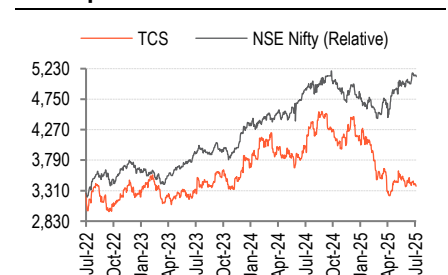
Source: NSE | Price as of 10 Jul 2025

Key financials

| Y/E 31 Mar | FY25A | FY26E | FY27E |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total revenue (Rs mn) | 2,553,240 | 2,661,695 | 2,857,269 |
| EBITDA (Rs mn) | 674,070 | 713,838 | 760,723 |
| Adj. net profit (Rs mn) | 485,530 | 523,111 | 551,938 |
| Adj. EPS (Rs) | 134.2 | 144.6 | 152.5 |
| Consensus EPS (Rs) | 134.2 | 143.2 | 156.9 |
| Adj. ROAE (%) | 51.9 | 55.9 | 58.9 |
| Adj. P/E (x) | 25.2 | 23.4 | 22.2 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 18.0 | 16.9 | 15.9 |
| Adj. EPS growth (%) | 4.2 | 7.7 | 5.5 |

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



CEMENT

Q1FY26 Preview

10 July 2025

Good start for the year; monsoon holds the key

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Healthy vol growth; a weak base helps: Cement demand was steady in Q1FY26, though a weak base helped reflect healthier gains. Demand revival visible in Q4FY25 was extended in many pockets reflected in the ~9% volume growth in our coverage universe. Demand was healthy in the eastern and western regions, helped by states like Bihar (pre-election demand), West Bengal, Gujarat and Maharashtra. Predictions of above-normal monsoon helped improve the sentiments in the rural segment and improved infrastructure activity helped urban demand. However, across-the-border tensions and early monsoon were the dampeners.

Price revival in early Q1FY26 steadily tapers: The aggressive price hikes taken in South India and price revival in the eastern and central region helped improve pricing sentiment early in the quarter. However, political tensions kept pricing on tenterhooks in East and South India. Further, arrival of monsoon two weeks ahead of the schedule added concerns on maintaining prices at elevated levels. Pan-India cement prices were higher by ~5-6%, skewed by steep price hikes in South India, followed by North & Central; while the West remained range-bound.

Limited margin fall: Realisations of our coverage companies improved by an average ~2%YoY (up by ~1% QoQ). With limited negative cost headwinds and better operating leverage available, margin profile improved with margins at ~21% in Q1FY26. Efficiently driven companies like UTCCEM, STRCEM, and SRCM outperformed the industry while ACC, TRCL and JK Lakshmi were below par.

Better pricing helps EBITDA/t recovery YoY: We estimate EBITDA/t at ~Rs 1,164/t recovering further from ~Rs995/tonne QoQ, on healthy pricing and limited cost headwinds. Better efficiencies by the use of alternate fuel helped recovery. EBITDA/t improvement was healthy on a weak base of general election quarter YoY. UTCCEM, SRCM and STRCEM stayed above industry average, but ACC and Ramco Cements fared below average.

No major change in stance: We continue to be positive on UTCCEM (BUY) and our negative stance (SELL Rating) on JK Lakshmi, Dalmia Bharat and TRCL.



INSURANCE

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Strong VNB growth ahead: For the coverage private players and LIC, APE is likely to grow moderate at 6% YoY in Q1FY26. This is likely on account of mixed performance with companies' growth ranging from (-3) to 14% YoY. However, VNB growth is expected to remain strong at 18% YoY in Q1FY26, aided by favourable product mix leading to margin expansion. During the quarter, VNB margin is likely to witness expansion for most of the players, private players, and LIC in the range of 100-300bps YoY; except for ICICI Pru (margin contraction of 65bps YoY). This is owing to the increasing share of high-margin products - non-par and protection products in the overall mix, coupled with the rising contribution of high-margin ULIP sales with higher sum assured with rider attachments. HDFCLIFE is likely to see the strongest APE growth of ~14% YoY in Q1FY26, while IPRU and SBILIFE may see a modest growth in the range of -3 to 7% YoY in Q1FY26.

HDFC Life: The company is expected to witness double-digit healthy APE growth of 14% YoY. Gross premium may see a growth of 21% YoY. VNB margin is likely to be at 26.1% in Q1FY26 vs 26.5% in Q4FY25 vs 25.1% in Q1FY25; aided by product shift towards traditional products and margin improvement in ULIPs. For Jun'25, its total APE grew 8% YoY, driven by individual APE growth (up 12% YoY). However, its group APE declined 22% YoY in Jun'25. Market share increased by 45bps, on a total APE basis. New business premium was down 6% YoY in Jun'25.

ICICI Pru Life: APE is likely to decline 3% YoY in Q1FY26, on a higher base (up 34% YoY in Q1FY25). Gross premium is expected to increase 8% YoY. VNB margin is likely to be at 23.4% vs 24% in Q1FY25 vs 22.7% in Q4FY25. Sequential increase in VNB margins would be aided by continued improvement in the product mix (favourable). In Jun'25, its APE rose 11% YoY, supported by group APE (up 51% YoY). Individual APE de-grew 10% YoY in Jun'25. It witnessed an increase in the market share of 55bps YoY. New business premium increased by 4% YoY.



Healthy quarter for non-Revlimid companies

- Domestic sales driven by new product launches and price hike. Insulin players like Eris/Lupin benefit from outgoing Novo's pen based insulin
- In US, Revlimid selling companies to report lower growth vs non-Revlimid companies. The gap unlikely to be filled soon by new launches
- In CDMOs, growth to be driven across companies as molecules swiftly move from one phase to another, leading to record commercialisation

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Overall decent quarter expected: We expect sales growth for our coverage companies to report at 10.57% YoY and 2.3% QoQ to Rs 560 bn, driven by healthy sales of 10.5% YoY in the domestic region and 2.4% YoY in the US region. EBITDA margin for our coverage companies is expected to be flat and increase by 16bps YoY and 5bps QoQ to 24.6%. Adjusted PAT is expected to grow by 43% YoY and 5.5% QoQ to Rs 93bn. From our coverage companies, Laurus Labs is expected to report 380% YoY PAT growth; Eris's PAT is expected to grow 66% YoY and Divi's is expected to grow at 39% YoY PAT.

All-round growth expected in domestic region: We expect all our companies, except acute business, to surpass IPM growth of ~9%, grow by 10.5% YoY and 12.8% QoQ to Rs 170mn, driven by price hike and new product launches. Companies like Sun will likely lead the growth through volume. Eris is expected to grow by cannibalising the opportunity of Mixtard, while others are expected to drive value growth. Acute focus companies like Alkem and Alembic are expected to grow in line with the IPM growth.

US cos' growth to be driven by non-generics: We expect US countries to report 2.4% YoY growth and 3.3% QoQ growth, driven by complex generics and specialty products. Though gRevlimid sales will taper in 1QFY26 due to competition, we expect the export to US to be better on the filing of channel inventory ahead of Tariff uncertainties.

CDMO companies: Sales for CDMO companies will likely grow by 38.6% YoY, though will decline by 10% to Rs 53bn in 1QFY26. We expect Laurus Labs sales to grow by 88% YoY given the very low base, followed by 14% YoY growth in Divi's and 15% YoY growth in Cohance. Overall, CDMO companies are likely to continue witnessing strong traction as all companies have record-high commercialised molecules.



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SELL – Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

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