## Recovery in sight

$16^{\text {th }}$ May 2024

We believe that the worst is behind and overall demand should start picking due to better consumer sentiments \& better monsoon predictions leading to higher disposable income for its target customers. We do not expect a V-shaped recovery rather a gradual one. The management is taking the right steps by closing down the non-profitable stores which should aid in improving the overall bottom line.

## Outlook:

- Consumer sentiment has improved as compared to previous quarters
- 23 stores will be shutdown in Q4 as they have not contributed to profitability
- Store target for FY25 on a gross level @ 50
- Limeroad: Focus is on profitability


## Key Financial Highlights:

- Revenue at 6686 mn, $+13 \%$ YoY/-25\% QoQ
- Core V-Mart business grew by $12 \%$ YoY to Rs 5486 mn , Unlimited grew to Rs 1047mn.
- New business Lime-Road contributed 2.2\% towards overall Revenue at Rs 152 mn
- EBITDA at Rs 402 mn, grew 75\% YoY
- EBIDTA margins at 6\% as against 3.9\% YoY.
- Loss of Rs 389 mn vs loss of 370 mn last year vs profit of 282 mn QoQ

| Financial Summary |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Y/E Mar (Rs mn) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| Net sales | 16,662 | 24,648 | 27,856 | 31,765 | 36,448 |
| Adjusted net profit | 116 | $(78)$ | $(1,129)$ | $(678)$ | $(19)$ |
| EPS (Rs) | 5.9 | $(3.9)$ | $(57.1)$ | $(34.3)$ | $(0.9)$ |
| P/B (x) | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5.8 | 6.4 | 6.4 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 25.4 | 20.9 | 28.7 | 18.7 | 14.6 |
| D/E | - | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| RoCE (\%) | 8.7 | 8.9 | $(2.9)$ | 8.5 | 18.6 |
| RoE (\%) | 1.4 | $(0.9)$ | $(15.1)$ | $(10.0)$ | $(0.3)$ |
| Dividend yield (\%) | 0.03 | - | - | - | 0.09 |

Source: Company, Dalal \& Broacha Research

| Rating | TP (Rs) | Up/Dn (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ACCUMULATE | 2,260 | 3 |
| Market data |  |  |
| Current price | Rs | 2,194 |
| Market Cap (Rs.Bn) | (Rs Bn) | 42 |
| Market Cap (US\$ Mn) | (US\$ Mn) | 508 |
| Face Value | Rs | 10 |
| 52 Weeks High/Low | Rs | 2445/1591 |
| Average Daily Volume | ('000) | 17 |
| BSE Code |  | 534976 |
| Bloomberg |  | VmART.IN |
| Source: Bloomberg |  |  |
| One Year Performance |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Source: Bloomberg |  |  |
| \% Shareholding | Mar-24 | Dec-23 |
| Promoters | 44 | 44 |
| Public | 56 | 56 |
| Total | 100 | 100 |

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## Conference Call Key Takeaways

## DEMAND (industry level)

- Consumer sentiments have improved and more footfalls being witnessed
- Better monsoons will play a huge role in increasing the consumption in Tier 2/3/4 cities
- As per the management the consumption pattern has changed wherein more spend is happening on low ASP products
- UP, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan have started to see green shoots in terms of consumption
- March, April and May (till date) has been positive in terms of sales growth


## V-Mart Core

- Repeat customers contributed more to growth than newer ones
- Open to close some more stores if they do not contribute positively to profitability
- Gross margins saw some contraction due to liquidation of high cost inventory, write down of some inventory and discounts in winter wear
- 8 Stores opened and 10 closed in Q4


## UNLIMITED

- New stores opened have done reasonably well than legacy stores
- Customers are more inclined towards buying low priced products
- Have got good response to the new GenZ collections and would be expanding into it more
- Inventory of UNLIMITED stores is a bit higher as the store size are larger than V-Mart core ( $15 \%$ of total inventory)
- Gross margins remained at similar levels
- 1 opened and 9 were closed


## LIME ROAD:

- EBITDA loss of 12 crs for Q4 vs 21.5 crs in Q4FY23
- Although earlier management had guided for breakeven in FY25, losses would continue in FY25 to the tune of 40-50\% of FY24 EBITDA losses (i.e ~28 to 35 crs in FY25)


## OTHER DETAILS:

- Limited scope seen in increasing gross margins, target is to increase volume to help improve the operating margins
- The majority savings in other expenses due to stores closed in Q4 would be seen in FY25 as lot of the stores were closed in March. The annual savings would be $\sim 4$ to 5 crs
- Management will continue to close down non-performing stores
- Focusing on keeping the inventory fresh
- ASP were strategically reduced by $5 \%$ in FY24 to attract more customers and expects the prices to be stable from here on
- Inventory per store has decreased from 2.1crs to 1.8 crs as on March'24
- 137 crs was spent on capex
- 44 crs of freecash flow generated


## Quarterly Performance Analysis

| Part iculars (Rs Mns) | Q4FY24 | Q4FY23 | YoY (\%) | Q3FY24 | QoQ (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Revenue | 6,686 | 5,939 | 13\% | 8,891 | -25\% |
| Other Income | 44 | 75 | -41\% | 130 | -66\% |
| Total | 6,730 | 6,014 |  | 9,021 |  |
| Total RM Cost | 4,567 | 4,043 | 13\% | 5,734 | -20\% |
| Gross Profit | 2,119 | 1,896 | 12\% | 3,157 | -33\% |
| Employee Cost | 670 | 680 | -1\% | 772 | -13\% |
| Other Expenses | 1,047 | 987 | 6\% | 1,189 | -12\% |
| Total | 6,284 | 5,710 |  | 7,694 |  |
| EBIDTA | 402 | 229 | 75\% | 1,197 | -66\% |
| Depreciation | 607 | 484 | 25\% | 583 |  |
| EBIT | (161) | (180) |  | 744 |  |
| Interest Cost | 359 | 336 | 7\% | 376 |  |
| PBT and exceptional item | (520) | (516) | 1\% | 369 | -241\% |
| exceptional item | - | - |  | - |  |
| PBT | (520) | (516) |  | 369 |  |
| Taxes | (131) | (146) |  | 87 |  |
| Report ed PAT | (389) | (370) |  | 282 |  |
| EPS | (19.7) | (18.7) |  | 14.3 |  |
| as a \% to sales |  |  |  |  |  |
| RM | 68.3\% | 68.1\% |  | 64.5\% |  |
| Gross profit margins | 31.7\% | $31.9 \%$ |  | 35.5\% |  |
| Employee Costs | 10.0\% | 11.5\% |  | 8.7\% |  |
| Other expenses | 15.7\% | 16.6\% |  | 13.4\% |  |
| Operating margins | 6.0\% | 3.9\% |  | 13.5\% |  |
| Tax rate (on PBT) | 25.1\% | 28.3\% |  | 23.5\% |  |

Source: Dalal \& Broacha Research, Company

Exhibit 1

| Particulars | Q4FY22 | Q1FY23 | Q2FY23 | Q3FY23 | Q4FY23 | Q1FY24 | Q2FY24E | Q3FY24E | Q4FY24E |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Stores | $380^{\circ}$ | 391 | 405 | 414 | 423 | 431 | 437 | 454 | 444.00 |
| Net Additions | 6 | 11 | 14 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 17 | -10.00 |
| Retail Space YTD in lacs Sq feet | $33.00^{7}$ | $34.00^{7}$ | $36.0{ }^{\circ}$ | 37.00 | 37.00 | 37.70 | 38.22 | 39.71 | 38.60 |
| Increase | 0.00 | 1.00 | 2.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.70 | 0.52 | 1.49 | -1.11 |
| Sales Per Sq Ft Per Mth In Rs as per Presentation | 380.00 | 626.00 | 516.00 | 766.00 | 584.00 | 632.00 | 502.00 | 795.00 | 635.00 |
| Sales Per Sq Ft Per Mth * 3 ( for Qtr) | 1140 | 1878 | 1548 | 2298 | 1752 | 1896 | 1506 | 2385 | 1905 |
| Growth | -33.2\% | 17.4\% | 48.7\% | -10.9\% | 53.7\% | 1.0\% | -2.7\% | 3.8\% | 8.7\% |
| Average Sq Ft per Store | 8684 | 8696 | 8889 | 8937 | 8747 | 8747 | 8747 | 8747 | 8694 |
| SSS Growth YTD |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 9MFY24 | Q4FY24 |
| - Value \% | 23\% | 137\% | 57\% | 30\% | 23\% | -3\% | -13\% | 1\% | 6\% |
| - Volume \% | 21\% | 124\% | 49\% | 29\% | 25\% | 3\% | 6\% | 6\% | 5\% |

[^0]Exhibit 2

| Particulars | Q4FY22 | Q1FY23 | Q2FY23 | Q3FY23 | Q4FY23 | Q1FY24 | Q2FY24 | Q3FY24 | Q4FY24 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SSS Growth YTD |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 9MFY24 | Q4FY24 |
| - Value \% | 23\% | 137\% | 57\% | 30\% | 23\% | -3\% | -13\% | 1\% | 6\% |
| - Volume \% | 21\% | 124\% | 49\% | 29\% | 25\% | 3\% | 6\% | 6\% | 5\% |
|  | up to FY 19 up to FY 19 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Segment Contribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -Fashion (\%) | 91 | 91 | 88 | 90 | 90 | 89 | 86 | 91 | 89 |
| -Kirana (\%) | 9 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 14 | 9 | 11 |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Sales Mix |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Apparels (\%) | 80.1 | 80.7 | 77.4 | 79.4 | 79.2 | 78.8 | 76 | 82 | 79 |
| Non Apparels (\%) | 10.8 | 9.9 | 10.3 | 10.9 | 11.1 | 10.4 | 10 | , | 10 |
| Kirana (\%) | 9.1 | 9.4 | 12.3 | 9.7 | 9.7 | 10.5 | 14 | 9 | 11 |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| FootFall (lacs) | 80 | 102 | 95 | 126 | 112 | 130 | 110 | 150 | 140 |
| Conversion Rate | 63\% | 62\% | 62\% | 55\% | 58\% | 56\% | 55.00\% | 52.00\% | 49.00\% |
| Shrinkage | -1\% | 0\% | 0\% | 0\% | 0\% | 1\% | 0.70\% | NA |  |
| Average Selling Price (Rs) | YTD | YTD | YTD | YTD | Q4FY23 | Q1FY24 | H1FY24 | 9MFY24 | Q4FY24 |
| Total (Rs) | 244 | 233 | 223 | 291 | 233 | 219 | 209 | 233 | 232 |
| Total Vmart | 220 |  |  |  | 214 | 197 | 187 | 211 | 215 |
| Total Unlimited | 523 |  |  |  | 453 | 451 | 434 | 451 | 409 |
| Apparels (Rs.) | 411 | 370 | 384 | 500 | 382 | 345 | 326 | 361 | 351 |
| Apparels Vmart | 384 |  |  |  | 365 | 320 | 301 | 338 | 337 |
| Apparels Unlimited | 568 |  |  |  | 498 | 485 | 459 | 480 | 438 |
| Transaction size (Rs) | 981 | 994 | 961 | 1,044 | 1,069 | 977 | 1057 | 1073 | 1065 |
| Vmart | 898 |  |  |  |  | 881 | 899 | 980 | 980 |
| Unlimited | 1,776 |  |  |  |  | 1,997 | 1947 | 2014 | 1911 |
| Store Count YTD | 380 | 391 | 405 | 414 | 423 | 431 | 437 | 454 | 444 |
| Tier 1 | 104 | 105 | 110 | 111 | 106 | 109 | 109 | 108 | 104 |
| Tier 2 | 54 | 54 | 53 | 53 | 52 | 52 | 53 | 55 | 53 |
| Tier 3 | 166 | 172 | 179 | 188 | 212 | 217 | 220 | 234 | 233 |
| Tier 4 | 56 | 60 | 63 | 62 | 53 | 53 | 55 | 57 | 54 |
| Store allocation | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% |
| Tier 1 \% | 27\% | 27\% | 27\% | 27\% | 25\% | 25\% | 25\% | 24\% | 23\% |
| Tier 2 \% | 14\% | 14\% | 13\% | 13\% | 12\% | 12\% | 12\% | 12\% | 12\% |
| Tier 3\% | 44\% | 44\% | 44\% | 45\% | 50\% | 50\% | 50\% | 52\% | 52\% |
| Tier 4\% | 15\% | 15\% | 16\% | 15\% | 13\% | 12\% | 13\% | 13\% | 12\% |

Source: Dalal \& Broacha Research, Company

## Valuation \& Outlook

We believe that the worst is behind and overall demand should start picking due to better consumer sentiments \& better monsoon predictions leading to higher disposable income for its target customers. We do not expect a V -shaped recovery rather a gradual one. The company has undertaken various initiatives in the last few quarters to bring back the customers to their stores by reducing the ASP, introducing products as per new trend and improving customer experience, however things are yet to improve significantly as there been pressure due to higher competition from organized and unorganized players. The management is taking the right steps by closing down the non-profitable stores which should aid in improving the overall bottomline. We believe the downside in the stock is limited and therefore maintain our recommendation of ACCUMULATE with a target price of Rs 2260.

## Financials

| P\&L (Rs mn) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net Sales | 16,662 | 24,648 | 27,856 | 31,765 | 36,448 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cost of sales | $(14,618)$ | $(21,959)$ | $(25,887)$ | $(28,672)$ | $(32,408)$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Operating Profit | $\mathbf{2 , 0 4 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 6 8 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 9 6 9}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 0 9 2}$ | $\mathbf{4 , 0 4 0}$ |
| Depreciation | $(1,307)$ | $(1,800)$ | $(2,221)$ | $(2,371)$ | $(2,522)$ |
| PBIT | 736 | 889 | $(252)$ | 721 | 1,518 |
| Other income | 140 | 150 | 210 | 55 | 53 |
| Interest | $(772)$ | $(1,169)$ | $(1,424)$ | $(1,454)$ | $(1,590)$ |
| Profit before tax | 104 | $(130)$ | $(1,466)$ | $(678)$ | $(19)$ |
| Exceptional and Extra Or | - | - | - | - | - |
| PBT (Post Extra Ordinar! | 104 | $(130)$ | $(1,466)$ | $(678)$ | $\mathbf{( 1 9 )}$ |
| Provision for tax | 12 | 52 | $(337)$ | - | - |
| Reported PAT | $\mathbf{1 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{( 7 8 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 1 , 8 0 4 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 6 7 8 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 1 9 )}$ |
| MI | - | - | - | - | - |
| Adjusted PAT | $\mathbf{1 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{( 7 8 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 1 , 1 2 9 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 6 7 8 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 1 9 )}$ |

Source: Dalal \& Broacha Research, Company

| Balance Sheet | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Equity capital | 197 | 198 | 198 | 198 | 198 |
| Reserves | 8,299 | 8,292 | 7,272 | 6,595 | 6,576 |
| Net worth | $\mathbf{8 , 4 9 6}$ | $\mathbf{8 , 4 9 0}$ | $\mathbf{7 , 4 7 0}$ | $\mathbf{6 , 7 9 2}$ | $\mathbf{6 , 7 7 4}$ |
| Non Current Liabilites | 8,538 | 11,203 | 12,061 | 12,829 | 14,099 |
| Current Liabilites |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3,961 | 7,733 | 8,922 | 10,608 | 11,842 |
| CAPITAL EMPLOYED | $\mathbf{2 0 , 9 9 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 7 , 4 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 8 , 4 5 3}$ | $\mathbf{3 0 , 2 2 9}$ | $\mathbf{3 2 , 7 1 4}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non Current Assets | 11,598 | 16,078 | 17,466 | 18,915 | 20,336 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fixed Assets | 11,174 | 15,547 | 16,646 | 18,215 | 20,136 |
| Non Current Investments | 38 | - | - | - | - |
| Deferred Tax Asset | $\mathbf{3 8 6}$ | $\mathbf{5 3 1}$ | $\mathbf{8 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{7 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0}$ |
| Long Term Loans and Adv. | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other NON Current Asset | 414 | $\mathbf{7 7 0}$ | 639 | 696 | 400 |
| Current Assets | 8,983 | 10,577 | 10,348 | 10,619 | 11,979 |
| Current investments | 1,211 | 85 | 47 | 47 | 47 |
| Inventories | 6,682 | 8,706 | 8,161 | 8,268 | 9,486 |
| Trade Receivables | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cash and Bank Balances | $\mathbf{3 5 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 7 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 2 6}$ | $\mathbf{4 1 3}$ |
| Short Term Loans and Adı | 5 | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | 2 | 2 |
| Other Current Assets | 735 | 1,580 | 1,866 | 2,076 | 2,030 |


| Cash Flow St. (Rs. mn) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net Profit | 116 | $(78)$ | $(1,804)$ | $(678)$ | $(19)$ |
| Add: Dep. \& Amort. | 1,307 | 1,800 | 2,221 | 2,371 | 2,522 |
| Cash profits | $\mathbf{1 , 4 2 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 7 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{4 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 6 9 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 5 0 3}$ |
| (Inc)/Dec in |  |  |  |  |  |
| -Sundry debtors | - | - | - | - | - |
| -Inventories | $(2,399)$ | $(2,024)$ | 546 | $(107)$ | $(1,219)$ |
| -Loans/advances | 124 | 1 | 2 | - | - |
| '-Current Liab and Provisior | 1,142 | 2,142 | 1,452 | 1,391 | 1,146 |
| '- Other Non Current Assets | 0 | $(1,201)$ | $(155)$ | $(267)$ | 341 |
| Change in working capital | $(1,134)$ | $(1,083)$ | 1,845 | 1,017 | 268 |
| CF from Oper. activities | $\mathbf{2 9 0}$ | $\mathbf{6 3 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 2 6 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 7 1 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 7 7 2}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CF from Inv. activities | $\mathbf{1 2 0 8 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 2 , 1 9 4 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 2 , 3 0 8 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 3 , 1 7 8 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 3 , 0 8 5 )}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CF from Fin. activities | $\mathbf{( 6 )}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 4 0 6}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{4 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{5 0 0}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash generated/(utilised) | $\mathbf{7 6}$ | $\mathbf{( 1 4 9 )}$ | $\mathbf{7 1}$ | $\mathbf{( 4 6 )}$ | $\mathbf{1 8 7}$ |
| Cash at start of the year | 275 | 350 | 202 | 272 | 226 |
| Cash at end of the year | 350 | 202 | 272 | 226 | 413 |
| Ratios | FY22 | FY23 | FY24E | FY25E | FY26E |
| OPM | 12.3 | 10.9 | 7.1 | 9.7 | 11.1 |
| NPM | 0.7 | $(0.3)$ | $(4.0)$ | $(2.1)$ | $(0.1)$ |
| Tax rate | 11.9 | $(39.7)$ | 23.0 | - | - |

Growth Ratios (\%)

| Net Sales | 54.9 | 47.9 | 13.0 | 14.0 | 14.7 |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | :---: |
| Operating Profit | 55.7 | 31.6 | $(26.8)$ | 57.0 | 30.6 |
| PBIT | 160.7 | 20.8 | $(128.3)$ | $(386.3)$ | 110.6 |
| PAT | $(287.7)$ | $(167.0)$ | $1,346.7$ | $(40.0)$ | $(97.3)$ |

Per Share (Rs.)

| Net Earnings (EPS) | 5.9 | -3.9 | -57.1 | -34.3 | -0.9 |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| Cash Earnings (CPS) | 72.1 | 87.1 | 55.2 | 85.6 | 126.6 |
| Dividend | 0.8 | - | - | - | 2.0 |
| Book Value | 430.2 | 429.4 | 377.6 | 343.4 | 342.5 |
| Free Cash Flow | 4.1 | $(78.6)$ | $(2.3)$ | $(23.6)$ | $(15.8)$ |

## Valuation Ratios

| P/E(x) | $\mathbf{3 7 0 . 5}$ | $\mathbf{( 5 5 3 . 4})$ | $\mathbf{( 3 8 . 3 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 6 3 . 8 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 2 , 3 2 0 . 2 )}$ |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| P/B(x) | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5.8 | 6.4 | 6.4 |
| EV/EBIDTA(x) | 25.4 | 20.9 | 28.7 | 18.7 | 14.6 |
| Div. Yield(\%) | 0.0 | - | - | - | 0.1 |
| FCF Yield(\%) | $\mathbf{0 . 2}$ | $\mathbf{( 3 . 6 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 0 . 1 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 1 . 1 )}$ | $\mathbf{( 0 . 7 )}$ |

## Return Ratios (\%)

ROE
1.4
(0.9) (15.1)
(10.0)
(0.3)

ROCE
8.7
8.9
(2.9)
8.5
18.6

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