# JSW Steel (JSWSTE)

CMP: ₹890 Target: ₹1,085 (22%)

Target Period: 12 months

BUY

July 21, 2024

## Profitability set to improve amid decline in RM costs...

**About the stock:** JSW Steel (JSW), the flagship company of JSW group, is one of the largest and most diversified steel producers' companies in India.

Steel Capacity as of FY24: India- 28.2 million Ton (MT) & US- 1.5 MT

Q1FY25 Results: JSW Steel reported muted performance in Q1FY25 results. Consolidated topline stood at ₹42,943 crore (up 2% YoY, down 7% QoQ) with steel sales volume of 6.12 MT (up 7% YoY, down 9% QoQ). Reported EBITDA for the quarter came in at ₹5,510 crore vs ₹6,124 crore in Q4FY24, largely attributed to decline in volumes and negative operating leverage. Standalone operations reported EBITDA/tonne of ₹8,399 vs ₹7,807 in Q4FY24 vs ₹9,860 in Q1FY24.

#### **Investment Rationale**

- Extensive expansion strategy aligns with growing steel demand in domestic market: Although India is the world's second largest consumer of finished steel, its per capita steel consumption is only 77 per kg, significantly lower than the global average of 233 per kg. To increase per capita steel consumption to 160 per kg by 2030-31, the government aims for crude steel capacity of 300 MT. ISW Steel, leveraging its extensive industry experience, has initiated an expansion strategy to increase its domestic steel production capacity to 42 MTPA by Sept'27, and gradually expanding it to 50 MTPA by FY31. Most of these capacity expansions will be brownfield in nature at its existing plants, including Vijayanagar, which is the largest integrated steel facility in India, undergoing an expansion from ~12 MT to ~19 MT by FY25. Moreover, JSW also aims to augment its downstream capacities, targeting an increase in the share of value-added products. Looking ahead, on a consolidated basis, we have modelled in a volume growth of 10% CAGR over FY24-26E to 30 MT in FY26E vs. 25 MT clocked in FY24 (sales volume guidance retained at 27 MT for FY25E).
- EBITDA/tonne poised to improve owing to decline in raw material costs: Iron ore and coking coal are two major raw materials in steel making with both these materials witnessing downward sloping market prices amid subdued demand in China. This is indeed a positive development for Indian steelmakers especially JSW Steel with EBITDA/tonne set to substantially improve in coming quarters. Moreover, to secure critical raw materials, JSW is aggressive on scouting mines (iron ore, coal), aiming to increase the captive share of its iron ore requirements from ~40% currently to ~50% by FY25E. It has also announced acquisition of coking coal mines (predevelopmental stage) in Mozambique. With raw material security in sight, improved steel sales volume and decline in RM costs, we project EBITDA/tonne at JSW to improve to ₹10.6k/12.9k per tonne for FY25E/26E.

#### **Rating and Target Price**

• With strategic capacity expansion in place, favourable steel demand domestically and improved profitability in sight we retain our **BUY** rating to the stock and value it at ₹ 1,085 i.e. 8.5x FY26E EV/EBITDA.



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Particulars	
Particulars	₹ crore
Market capitalisation	2,17,641
Total Debt (FY24)	85,575
Cash & Investment (FY24)	12,348
EV (₹ crore)	2,90,868
52 week H/L (₹)	959/723
Equity capital (₹ crore)	305.0
Face value (₹)	1.0

Shareholding pattern								
	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24				
Promoter	44.8	44.8	44.8	44.8				
FII	26.1	26.3	26.1	25.5				
DII	9.5	9.5	9.8	10.5				
Other	19.6	19.4	19.3	19.2				

Price Chart	
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Nifty (LHS) JSW (RHS)	

#### Recent event & key risks

- Posted muted Q1FY25 results.
  Guides for substantial improvement in EBITDA/tonne
- Key Risk: (i) Higher than expected rise in operating cost (ii) delay in executing capex plans at Indian operation

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Key Financial Summ	ury								
Key Financials (₹ crore)	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	5 year CAGR (FY19-24)	FY25E	FY26E	2 year CAGR (FY24-26E)
Total Operating Income	73,326	79,839	1,46,371	1,65,960	1,75,006	15.6%	1,89,879	2,12,375	10.2%
EBITDA	11,873	20,141	39,007	18,547	28,236	8.3%	30,359	40,054	19.1%
EBITDA Margins (%)	16.2	25.2	26.6	11.2	16.1		16.0	18.9	
Net Profit	4,030	7,911	20,665	4,144	8,812	2.9%	9,378	15,978	34.7%
EPS (₹)	16.5	32.4	84.5	16.9	36.0		38.3	65.3	
P/E	54.0	27.5	10.5	52.5	24.7		23.2	13.6	
RoNW (%)	14.2	17.5	30.5	5.8	11.0		11.0	16.3	
RoCE (%)	7.4	13.0	21.9	7.0	11.1		11.1	14.7	

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

### Key Takeaways of Recent Quarter

#### Q1FY25 Results: Reported Muted Performance

- On consolidated basis, Total operating income for the quarter came in at ₹42,943 crore (up 2% YoY, down 7% QoQ) with steel sales volume at 6.12 MT up 7% YoY, down 9% QoQ due to plant maintenance shutdowns at Dolvi and BPSL. However, standalone ASP improved by 3% QoQ to ₹64,153/ton due to better product mix in the quarter.
- Consolidated EBITDA for the quarter stood at ₹5,510 crore with corresponding EBITDA Margins at 12.8% (down 40 bps QoQ). This is attributed to a decline in volumes and negative operating leverage. Standalone EBITDA/tonne for Q1FY25 came in at ₹8,399 vs ₹7,807 in Q4FY24 vs ₹9,860 in Q1FY24
- PAT for the quarter stood at ₹867 crore. Net Debt came in at ₹80,199 crore with a Net Debt to EBITDA ratio at 3x in Q1FY25 compared to 2.6x in Q4FY24. The increase in debt for the quarter is largely driven by acceptance payout of ~\$300 million. Cash and cash equivalent at the end of quarter was at ₹9,217 crore. Capex stood at ~₹4,500 crore in Q1FY25.

#### Q1FY25 Earnings Conference Call Highlights:

- Industry: India steel consumption grew by ~15% to 35.4 million Tons (MT) in Q1FY25. JSW expect steel demand to grow at +10% range, with an incremental demand of 12 to 14 MT in FY25 driven by higher government capex and strong demand across the sectors. It expects steel prices to be range bound in the coming quarter but remains cautious about the rise in steel imports, particularly from China and ASEAN countries.
- Management Guidance: JSW remains firm with its production and sales volume target of 28.4 MT and 27 MT in FY25, respectively. It aims to increase its capacity to 43.5 MT by Sep'27 and further expand to 51.5 MT by FY31. The incremental capacity will come from brownfield expansion at the Vijayanagar and BPSL plants, expected to ramp up in FY25. The capex guidance for FY25 is still intact at ₹20,000 crore. It expects Net Debt to EBITDA level to be at 2.5x by the end of FY25.
- Slurry Pipeline: JSW's board has approved the transfer of assets pertaining to an under construction 30-million tons slurry pipeline project in Odisha to JSW Infrastructure. This project will be transferred on an arm's length basis for ₹1,700 crore, which is the aggregate of the fair value of costs incurred post 31<sup>st</sup> May'24 as determined by an independent valuer and cost incurred post 31<sup>st</sup> May'24. It has in turn signed a take or pay agreement with JSW Infra for 18 MTPA (annual outgo at ~₹ 1,320 crore). It expects to save ₹900-1000/ ton of iron ore cost from slurry pipeline. The decision is made keeping in mind the capex requirement at JSW Steel with management sharing that IRR on this amount saved and being spend on Dolvi plant (expansion) to be greater than slurry pipeline intended IRR.
- Iron Ore: JSW currently has nine operating iron ore mines with the capacity of 11 MT in Karnataka. It aims for the gradual commissioning of three new mines, which will add another 4.5 MT by FY25. It has already won two mines in goa with capacities of 1.5 to 2 MT. Additionally, it has also won two mines in Maharashtra that are into the development stage. Its captive iron ore production currently stands at 40% range.
- Coking Coal: JSW witnessed a decrease in coking coal prices by \$23 per ton in Q1FY25. It expects another \$23 to \$28 per ton decline in coking coal in Q2FY25. It anticipates lower raw material cost will fully benefit and improve steel spreads in Q2FY25.

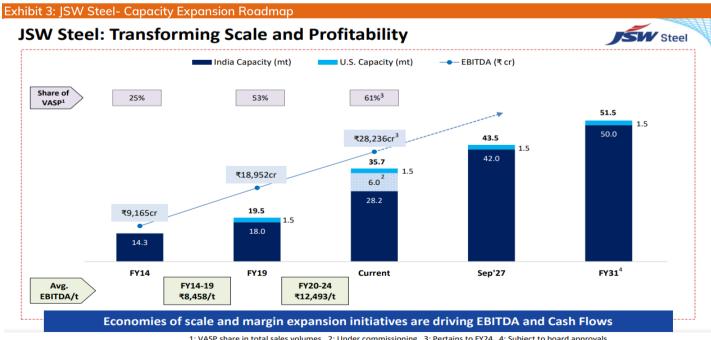
## **Key Tables and Charts**

Exhibit 1: Quarterly Analysis						
	Q1FY25	Q1FY24	YoY (%)	Q4FY24	QoQ (%)	Comments
Total Operating Income	42,943	42,213	1.7	46,269	-7.2	Topline came in lower QoQ due to drop in volumes while Asp's improved
Raw Material Expenses	25,830	24,292	6.3	28,107	-8.1	RM costs was lower factoring in decline in coking coal prices which were down \$23/t on QoQ basis
Employee Expenses	1,248	1,161	7.5	1,151	8.4	
Power & Fuel expenses	3,906	3,781	3.3	3,690	5.9	Power and fuel expense came in higher
Other expenses	6,449	5,933	8.7	7,197	-10.4	
EBITDA	5,510	7,046	-21.8	6,124	-10.0	EBITDA was down QoQ amid decline in volumes and negative operating leverage at play
EBITDA Margin (%)	12.8	16.7	-386 bps	13.2	-40 bps	
Other Income	164	331	-50.5	242	-32.2	
Depreciation	2,209	1,900	16.3	2,194	0.7	Depreciation came in on expected lines
Interest	2,073	1,963	5.6	2,062	0.5	
Tax	513	1,052	-51.2	690	-25.7	
PAT	867	2,428	-64.3	1,322	-34.4	PAT was down substantially tracking decline in sales volume, adverse impact on margins as well as higher tax incidence
Key Metrics						
Standalone Numbers						
Sales Volume (million tonne)	5.1	4.9	3.2	5.7	-10.5	On standalone basis, volumes were down 10.5% QoQ on account of seasonality and rise in imports
Blended Realisations (₹/tonne)	64,153	66,513	-3.5	62,111	3.3	Realisations improved QoQ due to better product mix, rising share of value added products
EBITDA/tonne	8,399	9,860	-14.8	7,807	7.6	EBITDA/tonne improved QoQ to ₹ 8,399/tonne

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 2: Assumptions									
Standalone	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Sales Volume (million tonne, MT)	15.6	15.8	15.1	14.9	16.5	19.7	21.2	23.0	25.9
Blended Realisations (₹/tonne)	43,357	48,977	42,642	47,532	71,969	66,846	63,674	63,645	64,500
EBITDA/tonne (₹/tonne)	9,603	11,746	8,306	12,943	19,302	7,803	10,353	10,624	12,876

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research



JSW Steel Q1 FY25 Results Presentation /

1: VASP share in total sales volumes, 2: Under commissioning, 3: Pertains to FY24, 4: Subject to board approvals EBITDA and EBITDA/t values are for JSW Steel Consolidated

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Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

# Financial Summary (Consolidated)

Exhibit 4: Profit and loss	statement			₹ crore
(Year-end March)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Net Sales	1,63,646	1,72,588	1,87,031	2,09,189
Other Operating Income	2314	2418	2848	3186
Total Operating Income	1,65,960	1,75,006	1,89,879	2,12,375
Growth (%)	13.4	5.5	8.5	11.8
Raw Material Expenses	1,00,791	1,01,678	1,09,999	1,20,344
Employee Expenses	3,915	4,591	5,211	5,552
Other Operating Expense	42,707	40,501	44,311	46,425
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	1,47,413	1,46,770	1,59,521	1,72,321
EBITDA	18,547	28,236	30,359	40,054
Growth (%)	-52.5	52.2	7.5	31.9
Depreciation	7,474	8,172	9,314	10,314
Interest	6,902	8,105	8,683	8,758
Other Income	1,030	1,004	760	850
PBT	5,201	12,963	13,121	21,832
Exceptional Item	-454	-417	12	0
Total Tax	1,516	4,407	3,563	5,676
PAT	4,144	8,812	9,378	15,978
Growth (%)	-80.2	112.6	6.4	70.4
EPS (₹)	16.9	36.0	38.3	65.3

Source:	Company,	ICICI	Direct	Research
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Exhibit 5: Cash flow state	xhibit 5: Cash flow statement						
(Year-end March)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E			
Profit after Tax	4,144	8,812	9,378	15,978			
Add: Depreciation	7,474	8,172	9,314	10,314			
(Inc)/dec in Current Assets	552	-4,752	-5,157	-6,793			
nc/(dec) in CL and Provisions	7,582	-5,243	4,284	6,176			
Others	6,902	8,105	8,683	8,758			
CF from operating activities	26,654	15,094	26,501	34,432			
(Inc)/dec in Investments	134	-2,440	-4	-4			
(Inc)/dec in Fixed Assets	-17,298	-23,180	-20,000	-20,000			
Others	-2,378	370	10	10			
CF from investing activities	-19,542	-25,250	-19,994	-19,994			
ssue/(Buy back) of Equity	0	4	0	0			
nc/(dec) in loan funds	8,867	6,733	2,500	-1,000			
Dividend & interest outgo	-11,096	-8,927	-10,639	-11,937			
nc/(dec) in Share Cap	0	0	0	0			
Others	-1,552	3,980	0	0			
CF from financing activities	-3,781	1,790	-8,139	-12,937			
Net Cash flow	3,331	-8,366	-1,632	1,502			
Opening Cash	17,383	20,714	12,348	10,716			
Closing Cash	20,714	12,348	10,716	12,217			

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 6: Balance Sheet			₹	crore
(Year-end March)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Liabilities				
Equity Capital	301	305	305	305
Reserve and Surplus	65,394	77,364	84,785	97,584
Total Shareholders funds	65,695	77,669	85,090	97,889
Total Debt	78,842	85,575	88,075	87,075
Deferred Tax Liability	7,936	9,659	9,659	9,659
Minority Interest / Others	5,518	7,451	7,461	7,471
Total Liabilities	1,57,991	1,80,354	1,90,285	2,02,094
Assets				
Gross Block	1,40,938	1,56,608	1,86,284	2,06,284
Less: Acc Depreciation	36,614	44,786	54,100	64,414
Net Block	1,04,324	1,11,822	1,32,184	1,41,870
Capital WIP	22,166	29,676	20,000	20,000
Total Fixed Assets	1,26,490	1,41,498	1,52,184	1,61,870
Investments	4,934	7,885	7,889	7,893
Inventory	33,135	37,815	41,617	46,548
Debtors	7,134	7,548	8,323	9,310
Loans and Advances	717	4	4	5
Other Current Assets	6,445	6,816	7,395	8,271
Cash	20,714	12,348	10,716	12,217
Total Current Assets	68,145	64,531	68,056	76,351
Current Liabilities	38,203	33,365	36,415	40,729
Provisions	280	439	479	536
Current Liabilities & Prov	53,087	47,844	52,128	58,303
Net Current Assets	15,058	16,687	15,929	18,048
Others Assets	11,509	14,284	14,284	14,284
Application of Funds	1,57,991	1,80,354	1,90,285	2,02,094

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 7: Key ratios				
(Year-end March)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Per share data (₹)				
EPS	16.9	36.0	38.3	65.3
Cash EPS	47.5	69.5	76.4	107.5
BV	268.6	317.6	348.0	400.3
DPS	3.4	7.3	8.0	13.0
Cash Per Share	68.8	40.5	35.1	40.1
Operating Ratios (%)				
EBITDA Margin	11.2	16.1	16.0	18.9
PAT Margin	2.5	5.0	4.9	7.5
Inventory days	72.9	78.9	80.0	80.0
Debtor days	15.7	15.7	16.0	16.0
Creditor days	84.0	69.6	70.0	70.0
Return Ratios (%)				
RoE	5.8	11.0	11.0	16.3
RoCE	7.0	11.1	11.1	14.7
RolC	9.6	14.5	13.2	17.5
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	52.5	24.7	23.2	13.6
EV/EBITDA	14.9	10.3	9.7	7.3
EV / Net Sales	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4
Market Cap / Sales	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0
Price to Book Value	3.3	2.8	2.6	2.2
Solvency Ratios				
Debt/EBITDA	4.3	3.0	2.9	2.2
Debt / Equity	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9
Current Ratio	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.6
Quick Ratio	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research



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Reduce: -15% to -5%;

Sell: <-15%



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