Fundamental Research



Adani – Holcim deal

16th Jun. 2022

- On 15th May 2022, **Holcim Ltd.** (promoter company of **Ambuja Cements Ltd.** and **ACC Ltd.**) has signed a binding agreement with the **Adani Group** for selling its business in India. Whole transaction cost is anticipated at around USD 10.5bn.
- Holcim's Indian assets includes 63.11% stake in Ambuja, which in turn owns a 50.05% interest in ACC; and a 4.48% direct stake in ACC.
- With the acquisition of the Holcim's assets, Adani will be almost in a pole position in the domestic cement sector.
- Currently, Ambuja-ACC combined have an installed cement capacity of around 66mn tonnes (31.4mn tonnes of Ambuja and 34.9mn tonnes of ACC). The two companies together have 23 cement plants, 14 grinding stations, 80 ready-mix concrete plants and over 50,000 channel partners across India.
- The deal is likely to close in H2 of 2022, subject to CCI clearance.
- Since Adani doesn't have any cement asset in the country, this transaction is not likely to face any CCI hurdle.
- Pursuant to the deal, Adani will pay around Rs. 50,000cr (USD 6.5bn) in cash for the Holcim's asset. The deal values Ambuja at Rs. 385 per share and ACC at Rs. 2,300 per share. Based on EV/tonne, Ambuja and ACC are together valued for around USD 165 per tonne.
- Adani will also make mandatory open offer for 26% of the shares held by the public in Ambuja and ACC each. This open offer would cost around Rs. 31,000cr (USD 4bn).
- As per the open offer, Adani will make a cash offer to acquire 51.6cr shares of Ambuja at Rs. 385 and 4.9cr shares of ACC at Rs. 2,300 per share.
- If 26% and more public owned shares are tendered, then Adani's stake would climb over 89% in Ambuja and 81% in ACC.
- Adani has not given any indication of taking both Ambuja and ACC private post the acquisition. We feel that in the near term, there is no
 possibility of delisting the shares from the bourses.
- According to the media reports, Holcim will not pay any taxes in India as the deal is protected under the India-Netherlands treaty.
- Moreover, according to the Holcim's management, after the sales of assets it would not be liable for the fines imposed by the CCI on Ambuja and ACC. The liability will be on new owner.
- In the past, CCI has imposed a fine of Rs. 1,148cr on ACC and Rs. 1,164cr on Ambuja. Currently, the matter is pending before the apex court.
- The acceptance ratio for the open offer is 70.72% for Ambuja and 57.33% for the ACC public shareholders.
- Below is the tentative schedule of major activities related to the open offer of both the companies.

No.	Name of Activity	Schedule of Activities (Date and Day) ^a
1. 2. 3.	Issue of Public Announcement	Sunday, May 15, 2022
2.	Publication of the Detailed Public Statement in the Newspapers	Monday, May 23, 2022
3.	Last date for filing of the draft Letter of Offer with SEBI	Monday, May 30, 2022
4.	Last date for public announcement for competing offer(s)	Monday, June 13, 2022
	Last date for receipt of comments from SEBI on the draft Letter	Monday, June 20, 2022
1	of Offer (in the event SEBI has not sought clarification or	
	additional information from the Managers to the Open Offer)	
6. 7.	Identified Date*	Wednesday, June 22, 2022
7.	Last date for dispatch of the Letter of Offer to the shareholders	
	of the Target Company whose names appear on the register of members on the Identified Date	
8.	Last date by which a committee of independent directors of the Target Company is required to publish its recommendation to the shareholders of the Target Company for this Open Offer	
9.	Last date for upward revision of the Offer Price and/or the Offer Size	Monday, July 4, 2022
10.	Date of publication of Open Offer opening public announcement, in the Newspapers in which the Detailed Public Statement has been published	Tuesday, July 5, 2022
11.	Date of commencement of the Tendering Period	Wednesday, July 6, 2022
	Date of closure of the Tendering Period	Tuesday, July 19, 2022
	Last date of communicating the rejection/acceptance and completion of payment of consideration or refund of Equity Shares to the shareholders of the Target Company	Tuesday, August 2, 2022
14.	Last date for publication of post Open Offer public announcement in the newspapers in which the Detailed Public Statement has been published	
15.	Last date for filing the post Offer report with SEBI	Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Source: Choice Broking Research



Choice's Rating Rationale

The price target for a large cap stock represents the value the analyst expects the stock to reach over next 12 months. For a stock to be classified as Outperform (Buy), the expected return must exceed the local risk free return by at least 5% over the next 12 months. For a stock to be classified as Underperform (Reduce, Sell), the stock return must be below the local risk free return by at least 5% over the next 12 months. Stocks between these bands are classified as Neutral (Hold).

Rating Rationale	
BUY	Absolute Return >15%
Hold	Absolute Return Between 0-15%
Reduce	Absolute Return 0 To Negative 10%
Sell	Absolute Return > Negative 10%

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Choice Equity Broking Pvt. Ltd

Choice House, Shree Shakambhari Corporate Park, Plt No: -156-158, J.B. Nagar, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400 099.



+91-022-6707 9999



www.choicebroking.in



+91-022-6707 9959

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