

# **Page Industries**

# Strong operational beat on superior gross margin

Consumer Discretionary | Result Update | May 15, 2025

REDUCE (NO CHANGE)

Current Price (Rs) : 46,940

Target Price (Rs) : 47,000 (43,500)

Potential Upside : 0%

Market Data

No. of shares : 11 mn

Free Float : 57.1%

Market Cap (USD) : 6,125 mn

52-week High/ Low (Rs) : 49,850/ 34,525

Avg. Daily Volume (6M) : 0.03 mn

Avg. Daily Value (6M;USD) : 15.91 mn

Bloomberg Code : PAG IB

Promoters Holding : 42.9%

**Price Performance** 

FII / DII

(%)	1M	3M	12M
Absolute	3.8	14.3	34.1
Relative	(4.4)	7.2	22.8

: 24% / 26%

Source: Bloomberg

Q4FY25 revenue beat (volume-led; up 8.6% YoY) the estimates by ~3% despite subdued demand trends. EBITDA margin beat was robust (~350 bps beat) led by gross margin (GM; up 490 bps YoY) and favorable opex (cost efficiency-led). Management was cautiously optimistic on near-term demand trends (targeting HSD volumes; limited pricing-led growth in FY26) and continues to maintain the 19-21% margin band, as opex is expected to rise (higher IT/ marketing/ staff costs). We raise our FY26/ 27E EPS by 2-3% baking in the robust margin beat. Revise TP to Rs 47,000 (55x Jun'27E EPS). Maintain REDUCE rating on fully-priced valuation limiting incremental upside.

### Healthy revenue beat; GM led gains drive strong operational beat

Net revenue grew ~11% YoY to Rs 11.0 bn (~3% beat), EBITDA grew 43% YoY to Rs 2.4 bn (~23% beat) and PAT at Rs ~1.6 bn (~32% beat) grew 52% YoY. EBITDA margin expanded ~490 bps YoY to 21.4% (~350 bps beat) led by GM expansion of ~490 bps YoY (at 60.9%, ~440 bps beat) while staff costs/ other opex were lower/ higher by ~50 bps each YoY (~40 bps below estimates). GM expansion was led by (1) stability in RM (especially fabric) and (2) sustained production efficiencies. We note COGS on per piece basis declined 9% YoY.

### High-single-digit volume growth, but demand trends remain subdued

Q4 volume was 49.2 mn pieces, up 8.6% YoY (healthy beat). The management highlighted that EBOs and e-commerce/ quick commerce saw healthy growth while LFS faced challenges due to muted footfalls. It also highlighted that (1) Tier 3/4 town classes grew 4 ppts ahead of metros and Tier 1/2 during the quarter and (2) retail environment remains tepid and has not yet reached ideal levels (Q1FY26 trending similar to Q4). The company added 650 MBOs and 17 EBOs (net) (1,10,826 MBOs and 1,453 EBOs) during the quarter. FY25 volume grew 5.5% YoY.

# Steady momentum, priced for perfection; retain REDUCE

We raise our FY26/ 27E EPS by 2-3% baking in the superior margin delivery. We revise our TP to Rs 47,000 (from Rs 43,500) as we bake in EPS upgrade and rollover to Jun'27E EPS (55x target P/E). While growth trajectory has stabilized with normalization of channel inventory, strong growth in ecommerce and premiumization uplift across categories are enthusing and margin remains robust. Current valuation at 56x FY27E EPS factor in much of the optimism, leaving little room for execution misses. Maintain REDUCE rating on limited upside.

# Financial summary (Standalone)

Y/E March	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Sales (Rs mn)	45,347	48,986	54,375	61,230	68,713
EBITDA (Rs mn)	8,598	10,626	11,866	13,328	14,903
Adj. PAT (Rs mn)	5,692	7,291	8,148	9,283	10,495
Con. EPS* (Rs)	-	-	720.3	854.7	-
EPS (Rs)	510.3	653.7	730.5	832.3	940.9
Change YoY (%)	0	28	12	14	13
Previous EPS (Rs)	-	-	708.3	811.9	-
RoE (%)	38.4	48.5	53.1	51.8	51.7
RoCE (%)	45.9	60.7	64.7	64.0	64.4
P/E (x)	92.0	71.8	64.3	56.4	49.9
EV/E (x)	60.5	48.8	43.5	38.6	34.4

Source: \*Consensus broker estimates, Company, Axis Capital

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Exhibit 1: Quarterly performance (Rs mn)

	C	(uarterly		Chg (%)	Chg (%)	Q4FY2	5E	Repo	rted	Chg (%)
	Q4FY24	Q3FY25	Q4FY25	YoY	QoQ	vs. Axis est	Chg (%)	FY24	FY25	YoY
Net operating revenues	9,925	13,131	10,981	11	(16)	10,703	3	45,722	49,349	8
Material cost	(4,363)	(5,732)	(4,292)	(2)	(25)	(4,656)	(8)	(20,855)	(21,305)	2
Gross Profit	5,562	7,399	6,689	20	(10)	6,047	11	24,868	28,045	13
Employee cost	(1,935)	(2,062)	(2,087)	8	1	(2,080)	0	(8,019)	(8,215)	2
Other expenses	(1,983)	(2,311)	(2,249)	13	(3)	(2,050)	10	(8,221)	(9,204)	12
Total expenditure	(8,281)	(10,105)	(8,628)	4	(15)	(8,786)	(2)	(37,094)	(38,724)	4
EBITDA	1,643	3,025	2,352	43	(22)	1,917	23	8,628	10,626	23
Other income	137	140	201	47	43	145	39	294	616	110
Interest	(105)	(119)	(118)	13	(1)	(120)	(1)	(449)	(464)	3
Depreciation	(226)	(297)	(249)	10	(16)	(275)	(10)	(908)	(992)	9
Pretax profits	1,450	2,750	2,187	51	(20)	1,667	31	7,565	9,786	29
Tax	(368)	(703)	(547)	48	(22)	(425)		(1,873)	(2,494)	33
Adj. PAT	1,082	2,047	1,640	52	(20)	1,242	32	5,692	7,291	28
Extraordinary items	-	-	-			-		-	-	
Net profit (reported)	1,082	2,047	1,640	52	(20)	1,242	32	5,692	7,291	28
Recurring EPS	97.0	183.5	147.0	52	(20)	111.4	32	510.3	653.7	28
% of operating revenues										
Gross margin	56.0	56.3	60.9	487 bps	456 bps	56.5	441 bps	54.4	56.8	244 bps
EBITDA margin	16.6	23.0	21.4	486 bps	-162 bps	17.9	350 bps	18.9	21.5	266 bps
Material cost	44.0	43.7	39.1	-488 bps	-457 bps	43.5	-442 bps	45.6	43.2	-245 bps
Employee cost	19.5	15.7	19.0	-49 bps	330 bps	19.4	-43 bps	17.5	16.6	-90 bps
Other expenses	20.0	17.6	20.5	49 bps	287 bps	19.2	132 bps	18.0	18.7	67 bps
Income tax rate (% of PBT)	25.4	25.6	25.0	-40 bps	-57 bps	25.5	-50 bps	24.8	25.5	73 bps

Source: Company, Axis Capital

Exhibit 2: Raise FY26/27E EPS by ~2-3% led by superior margin delivery

Change in estimates

		FY26E			FY28E		
Rs mn	Revised	Earlier	Chng (%)	Revised	Earlier	Chng (%)	New
Revenues	54,755	55,103	(0.6)	61,628	61,710	(0.1)	69,127
EBITDA	11,866	11,678	1.6	13,328	13,206	0.9	14,903
EBITDA margin (%)	21.7	21.2		21.6	21.4		21.6
Net income	8,148	7,900	3.1	9,283	9,056	2.5	10,495
EPS (Rs/share)	730	708	3.1	832	812	2.5	941

Source: Company, Axis Capital

# **Concall highlights**

- **Demand environment:** The retail environment remains tepid and has not yet reached ideal levels even as consumers aren't purchasing as they once did. Management believes an improvement will be seen in FY26 led by tax exemptions, favorable monsoons, retail inflation at all time low (6 year low)
  - Tier 3/4 town classes grew 4 ppts ahead of metros, Tier 1/2 during the quarter. A shift in Eid to Q4 has helped improve performance in retail (*but not primary*) in certain markets. However, this would not have advanced sales to Q4 (*from Q1*).
  - Demand trends for YTD Q1FY26 remain similar to Q4FY25.
- Volume growth: Volume growth remains consistent across categories and more a function of channel inventory. During the quarter, innerwear grew ahead of athleisure which grew ahead of accessories. Management endeavors to grow volumes in high-single digits.
  - Kids category is back on growth track and grew above average company growth rates.
  - Women's business has seen robust growth in innerwear (similar to men's innerwear) while outerwear is seeing slightly lower growth (vs women's innerwear) and is carrying marginally higher inventory.



Premiumisation is being witnessed both within & across categories. Increase in e-commerce has resulted in higher margins & full price sales which helped to increase realisations.

### ■ Channel growth

- **E-commerce** continues to grow ahead of other channels and contributes to ~10%+ of revenues. The channel grew at 41% in FY25 (*similar to FY24*)
- Quick commerce has seen faster channel growth (inorganic). This is due to expansion into new dark stores within existing & new players. Margins are not different for the channel but not very high vs other channels. The company is the category leader across e-commerce/quick-commerce.
- Gross Margin: Margin expansion was led by (1) stability in RM (especially fabric) and (2) sustained production efficiencies. Management expects these benefits to continue in the near term. The company has not taken price increases for the last three years and management sees no requirement for pricing actions.
- EBITDA Margins: Over the past few quarters, the company has reaped significant benefits from internal initiatives aimed at improving overall supply chain efficiencies, demand planning, and accuracy. Efforts in controlling expenses & managing inventory have brought costs down to acceptable levels. The full benefits of ARS are yet to be realized and the company is seeing continuous improvements. As a result, the company has started to see the benefits of these initiatives, with expenses under control leading to a healthy EBITDA margin, which is expected to remain in the 19-21% band.
  - A&P will remain in the range of 4-5% of sales while IT spends will be in the range of 1.25-1.5%.
- Manufacturing: Inhouse-manufacturing is typically between 80-90% for the company. This year saw an outsourced contribution at 27%. The Odisha plant will commence operations in Jun'25 but will not impact the mix as the plant will take 6-7 months to reach peak capacity. In the interim, in-house capacities can be sweated to augment capacities.
- Capex: The company has budgeted for Rs 1.8 bn of investments in FY26 for purchase of land as well as line extension in Odisha.
  - Odisha plant will be eligible for state level subsidies on wages but would not be a significant margin driver for the company.
- **Dividend**: The company has a dividend policy in place which distributes 60% of profit to shareholders. However, given the comfortable cash position, the company has opted to payout a higher dividend in FY26.

Exhibit 3: Volume growth at ~9% YoY; realization was down ~1% led by adverse mix

	Q4'22	Q1'23	Q2'23	Q3'23	Q4'23	Q1'24	Q2'24	Q3'24	Q4'24	Q1'25	Q2'25	Q3'25	Q4'25
Volume (mn pieces)	50.1	63.0	56.5	52.8	42.7	55.9	51.8	55.2	45.3	57.4	55.2	57.8	49.2
Volume growth (%)	8.7	150.5	-	(11.4)	(14.8)	(11.2)	(8.3)	4.6	6.2	2.6	6.6	4.7	8.6
Realisation per piece (Rs)	217	210	217	226	223	215	213	221	218	219	221	225	215
Realization growth (%)	14.5	8.2	15.0	14.0	2.7	2.6	(1.8)	(2.1)	(2.3)	1.7	3.6	2.0	(1.1)
COGS (Rs mn)	4,508	6,102	5,283	5,592	4,131	5,746	4,989	5,756	4,363	5,858	5,423	5,732	4,292
COGS per piece (Rs)	90	97	94	106	97	103	96	104	96	102	98	99	87
Growth (%) in COGS/piece	11.1	14.9	7.8	13.4	7.5	6.1	3.0	(1.6)	(0.5)	(0.6)	2.0	(4.9)	(9.4)

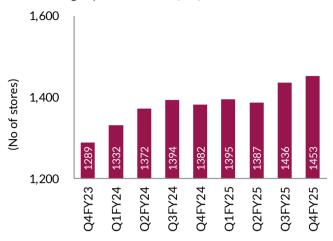
Source: Company, Axis Capital



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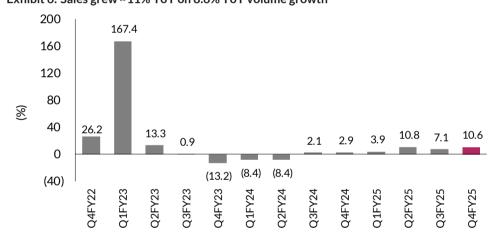
Exhibit 4: MBO count was up 4% YoY 1,25,000 1,20,000 1,15,000 ୍ଥି 1,10,000 ଅ 1,05,000 1,00,000 95,000 Q1FY25 Q2FY24 Q3FY24 Q4FY24 Q4FY25 Q3FY25 Q1FY24 Q2FY25

Exhibit 5: Page opened 17 EBOs (net)



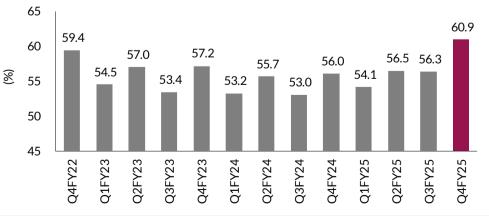
Source: Company, Axis Capital

Exhibit 6: Sales grew ~11% YoY on 8.6% YoY volume growth



Source: Company, Axis Capital

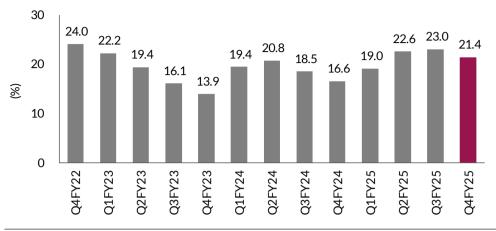
Exhibit 7: GM was up ~490 bps YoY to 60.9%



Source: Company, Axis Capital

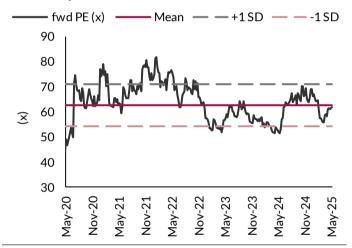


Exhibit 8: EBITDA margin expanded ~490 bps YoY on RM gains



Source: Company, Axis Capital

Exhibit 9: 1-year-forward P/E



Source: Bloomberg

Exhibit 10: 1-year-forward EV/EBITDA



Source: Bloomberg



# Financial summary (Standalone)

Y/E March	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Net sales	45,347	48,986	54,375	61,230	68,713
Other operating income	346	363	380	397	415
Total operating income	45,692	49,349	54,755	61,628	69,127
Cost of goods sold	(20,846)	(21,305)	(23,107)	(26,253)	(29,587)
Gross profit	24,846	28,045	31,648	35,374	39,541
Gross margin (%)	54	57	58	57	57
Total operating expenses	(16,248)	(17,419)	(19,783)	(22,046)	(24,638)
EBITDA	8,598	10,626	11,866	13,328	14,903
EBITDA margin (%)	19	22	22	22	22
Depreciation	(908)	(992)	(1,176)	(1,251)	(1,341)
EBIT	7,690	9,633	10,690	12,077	13,562
Net interest	(449)	(464)	(470)	(481)	(479)
Other income	324	616	715	862	1,002
Profit before tax	7,565	9,786	10,935	12,459	14,085
Total taxation	(1,873)	(2,494)	(2,787)	(3,176)	(3,590)
Tax rate (%)	25	25	25	25	25
Profit after tax	5,692	7,291	8,148	9,283	10,495
Minorities	-	-	-	-	-
Profit/ Loss associate co(s)	-	-	-	-	-
Adjusted net profit	5,692	7,291	8,148	9,283	10,495
Adj. PAT margin (%)	13	15	15	15	15
Net non-recurring items	-	-	-	-	-

Y/E March	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Paid-up capital	112	112	112	112	112
Reserves & surplus	15,858	13,960	16,531	19,122	21,251
Net worth	15,969	14,072	16,643	19,233	21,362
Borrowing	-	-	-	-	-
Other non-current liabilities	1,475	2,253	2,288	2,302	2,316
Total liabilities	17,444	16,325	18,931	21,535	23,678
Gross fixed assets	7,536	10,740	11,405	12,312	13,377
Less: Depreciation	(2,658)	(3,165)	(3,831)	(4,547)	(5,325)
Net fixed assets	4,878	7,576	7,574	7,766	8,052
Add: Capital WIP	2,387	722	722	722	722
Total fixed assets	7,265	8,298	8,296	8,488	8,775
Total Investment	-	-	-	-	-
Inventory	11,703	8,589	9,815	10,882	12,023
Debtors	1,586	1,916	2,105	2,345	2,604
Cash & bank	3,228	4,714	6,885	9,235	11,072
Loans & advances	-	-	-	-	-
Current liabilities	9,382	10,105	11,320	12,864	14,569
Net current assets	9,373	7,319	9,908	12,296	14,127
Other non-current assets	806	708	727	751	777
Total assets	17,444	16,325	18,931	21,535	23,678

Source: Company, Axis Capital

Cash Flow (Rs mn)					
Y/E March	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Profit before tax	7,565	9,786	10,935	12,459	14,085
Depreciation & Amortisation	908	992	1,176	1,251	1,341
Chg in working capital	3,802	3,641	(401)	(50)	(5)
Cash flow from operations	10,805	12,036	8,678	10,103	11,308
Capital expenditure	(961)	(796)	(664)	(908)	(1,065)
Cash flow from investing	(3,699)	117	51	(45)	(63)
Equity raised/ (repaid)	-	-	-	-	-
Debt raised/ (repaid)	(1,916)	-	-	-	-
Dividend paid	(3,458)	(9,146)	(5,577)	(6,692)	(8,365)
Cash flow from financing	(6,214)	(10,101)	(6,557)	(7,709)	(9,407)
Net chg in cash	891	2,051	2,172	2,349	1,837
Key Ratios					
Y/E March	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
OPERATIONAL					
FDEPS (Rs)	510.3	653.7	730.5	832.3	940.9
CEPS (Rs)	591.7	742.7	835.9	944.4	1,061.1
DPS (Rs)	310.0	900.0	500.0	600.0	750.0
Dividend payout ratio (%)	60.7	137.7	68.4	72.1	79.7
GROWTH					
Net sales (%)	(3.1)	8.0	11.0	12.6	12.2
EBITDA (%)	(0.3)	23.6	11.7	12.3	11.8
Adj net profit (%)	(0.4)	28.1	11.7	13.9	13.1
FDEPS (%)	(0.4)	28.1	11.7	13.9	13.1
PERFORMANCE					
RoE (%)	38.4	48.5	53.1	51.8	51.7
RoCE (%)	45.9	60.7	64.7	64.0	64.4
EFFICIENCY					
Asset turnover (x)	6.2	5.4	4.9	5.2	5.3
Sales/ total assets (x)	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9
Working capital/ sales (x)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Receivable days	12.8	14.3	14.1	14.0	13.8
Inventory days	115.2	81.0	83.5	82.2	80.9
Payable days	18.1	24.0	24.3	24.4	24.6
FINANCIAL STABILITY					
Total debt/ equity (x)	-	<u>-</u>	-	-	-
Net debt/ equity (x)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.5)	(0.5)
Current ratio (x)	2.0	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.0
Interest cover (x)	17.1	20.8	22.7	25.1	28.3
VALUATION					
PE (x)	92.0	71.8	64.3	56.4	49.9
EV/EBITDA (x)	60.5	48.8	43.5	38.6	34.4
EV/ Net sales (x)	11.5	10.6	9.5	8.4	7.5
PB (x)	32.8	37.2	31.5	27.2	24.5

0.7

1.9

1.9

2.1

1.1

1.5

1.3

1.8

1.6

2.0

May 15, 2025

Dividend yield (%)

Free cash flow yield (%)



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Page Industries (PAGE.NS, PAG IB) Price and Recommendation History

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	DEFINITION OF RATINGS
BUY	We expect this stock to deliver more than 15% returns over the next 12 months.
ADD	We expect this stock to deliver 5-15% returns over the next 12 months.
REDUCE	We expect this stock to deliver 5% to -10% returns over the next 12 months.
SELL	We expect this stock to deliver <-10% returns over the next 12 months.

# May-22 Sep-22 Sep-22 Sep-23 Sep-23 Aug-24 Aug-24 Apr-24 Apr-24 Aug-24 Jun-24 Jun-24 Jun-24 Jun-24 Jun-24 Jun-24 Jun-24 Aug-24 Sep-24 Sep-24 Sep-24 Aug-24 Aug-25 Aug-25 Aug-26 Aug-27 Au

Date	Target Price	Reco	Date	Target Price	Reco	Date	Target Price	Reco	Date	Target Price	Reco
26-May-22	44,500	Add	06-Apr-23	41,800	Add	11-Mar-24	39,000	Add			
11-Aug-22	52,000	Add	25-May-23	38,000	Reduce	07-Apr-24	39,000	Add			
08-Oct-22	52,000	Add	31-May-23	38,000	Reduce	23-May-24	38,500	Add			
20-Oct-22	52,000	Add	10-Aug-23	40,000	Reduce	08-Aug-24	39,000	Reduce			
11-Nov-22	52,000	Add	17-Aug-23	40,000	Reduce	07-Nov-24	44,500	Reduce			
21-Nov-22	52,000	Add	20-Sep-23	45,500	Add	05-Feb-25	43,500	Reduce			
07-Dec-22	52,000	Add	09-Nov-23	42,650	Add						
05-Jan-23	52,000	Add	16-Nov-23	42,650	Add						
09-Jan-23	52,000	Add	10-Jan-24	42,650	Add						
09-Feb-23	41,800	Add	15-Jan-24	42,650	Add						
20-Feb-23	41,800	Add	08-Feb-24	40,750	Add						
27-Feb-23	41,800	Add	19-Feb-24	40,750	Add						

Source: Axis Capital