Picici direct Research

CMP: ₹ 521

Target: ₹ 790 (52%)

Target Period: 12 months

August 6, 2022

Uptick in ethanol volume, debt reduction to lift earnings

About the stock: Avadh Sugar has 31800 TCD sugarcane crushing capacity 325 KLD distillery capacity & 74 MW saleable power capacity. The company produces 6.0 lakh tonnes (It) of sugar, 8 crore litre of ethanol & 15 crore units of saleable power.

 The company has increased its distillery capacity from 240 KLD to 325 KLD with a capex of ₹ 135 crore. This would help it increase its annual ethanol production to 11 crore litre

Q1FY23 Results: Avadh reported sales growth of 11.2% led by strong ethanol sales

- Sales up 11.2% to ₹ 688.1 crore led by 47.3% growth in ethanol revenues
- EBITDA was at ₹ 64.2 crore, down 8.3% YoY, with margins at 9.3%
- Consequent PAT was ₹ 19.7 crore (up 3.9%) impacted by dip in EBITDA

What should investors do? Avadh share price has gone up by 46% in the last five years (from ₹ 355 in August 2017 to ₹ 521 in August 2022).

- We expect 15.7% CAGR in distillery volumes to boost overall earnings with CAGR of 29.8% during FY22-24E
- We continue to maintain our **BUY** rating on the stock

Target Price and Valuation: We value the stock at ₹ 790, valuing the business at 8x FY24 PE

Key triggers for future price performance:

- The company has added 80 KLD distillery capacity with the capex of ₹ 135 crore, which would increase its distillery volumes to 11 crore litres. Avadh would be maximising B-heavy & Sugarcane Juice ethanol production
- Avadh is also undertaking de-bottlenecking operations, which would increase its operational efficiency & improve profitability
- Sugar inventory has fallen from 14.5 million tonnes (MT) in September-2019 to 8.2 MT in September 2021, which would further fall to 5.7 MT by September 2022. This would keep sugar prices benign above ₹ 35/kg
- With the inventory liquidation in next one year and boost in profitability, the company would be able to de-leverage its balance sheet. We expect debt reduction of ₹ 480 crore between FY22 and FY24E

Alternate Stock Idea: We also like Dwarikesh Sugar in our sugar coverage.

- The company is one of the most efficient companies with highest sugar recovery & abundant sugarcane availability. It is increasing its distillery capacity to 2x by FY24E
- We value the stock at ₹ 150/share with BUY recommendation

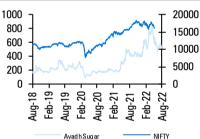


BUY

Particulars	
Particulars (₹ crore)	Amount
Market Capitalization	1,041.9
Total Debt (FY22)	1,212.8
Cash and Investments (FY22)	3.1
EV	2,251.6
52 week H/L (₹)	885 / 396
Equity capital	20.0
Face value (₹)	10.0

Sharehol	ding pat	tern									
(in %)	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22							
Promoter	60.4	60.4	60.4	60.4							
FII	1.0	0.7	2.3	2.2							
DII	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3							
Others	38.3	38.9	37.0	37.1							





Recent event & key risks

- Avadh is utilising expanded capacity to produce ethanol through juice & B-heavy molasses
- Key Risk: (i) Significant reduction in global sugar prices could derail exports next season (ii) Any weather related disruption on sugarcane yields or sugar recovery

Research Analyst

Sanjay Manyal sanjay.manyal@icicisecurities.com

Key Financials	FY20	FY21	FY22	CAGR (FY17-22E)	FY23E	FY24E	CAGR (FY22-24E)
Total Operating Income	2559.4	2710.5	2743.7	44.4%	2919.4	2967.8	4.0%
EBITDA	261.4	259.3	302.8	-6.7%	377.3	409.2	16.3%
EBITDA Margin %	10.2	9.6	11.0		12.9	13.8	
Net Profit	88.6	77.6	124.4	-9.4%	180.6	209.6	29.8%
EPS (₹)	44.31	38.79	62.20	-9.4%	90.29	104.80	29.8%
P/E	11.8	13.4	8.4		5.8	5.0	
RoNW %	15.0	11.7	15.4		18.6	18.3	
RoCE (%)	10.6	11.5	12.5		16.0	18.6	

Result Update

Key takeaways of recent quarter

Q1FY23 Results: Ethanol volume growth, interest reduction to boost profitability

- Consolidated sales grew 11.2% to ₹ 688.1 crore led by 10.1% growth in sugar & 47.3% growth in distillery segment
- Sugar sales volume dipped 6.6% to 1.38 It on account of lower sugar exports during the quarter. Its domestic sugar sales quota was up 1.2% to 1.17 It. Exports volume during the quarter were 0.21 It against 0.32 It in corresponding quarter last year. Sugar realisation was up 6.4% to ₹ 34.7/kg. The company is holding sugar inventory of 2.4 It as of June 2022 valued at ₹ 32.5/kg
- Distillery revenue growth of 47.3% was led by 41% increase in distillery volumes & 4.5% increase in distillery realisation. Distillery volumes were 2.7 crore litre, which included 0.5 crore litre ethanol produced from sugarcane juice. Average distillery realisation was up 4.5% to ₹ 60.5 / litre. Power sales increased 10.8% to ₹ 35.3 crore. Power volumes were flat at 2.3 crore units & average realisation was up by 4% to ₹ 3.21 / unit
- Operating profit declined 8.3% to ₹ 64.2 crore given cost of production in 2021-22 sugar season was higher by ₹ 3/kg due to increase in sugarcane prices & lower sugar recovery rate
- Interest cost dipped 23.4% to ₹ 21.4 crore mainly on account of ₹ 277 crore reduction in debt in last one year. Net profit witnessed a growth of 3.9% to ₹ 19.7 crore
- Total debt for the company has declined by ₹ 277 crore to ₹ 1185 crore in the last one year. Further, the company has accelerated farmer payment in 2021-22 sugar season. Sugarcane farmer pending dues for the company were ₹ 41 crore as on June 2022
- Industry wise sugar production is expected at 35.9 million tonnes (MT) in 2021-22 sugar season. Moreover, expected sugar consumption of 27.5 MT & exports of 11 MT (government allowed 1 MT additional exports), sugar inventories are likely to come down to 5.7 MT by September 2022
- The industry estimate sugar production of 35.5 MT in 2022-23 sugar season after 4.5 MT of sacrifice for ethanol diversion. Considering sugar consumption at 28 MT, India is required to exports 7-8 MT in 2022-23
- Brazil sugar production is expected to increase by 1 MT to 33 MT. Thailand sugar production is also likely to increase by 1-2 MT. Given, India export availability is likely to dip by 3 MT, global raw sugar prices are likely to remain firm 18-20 cents /lb. Global refined white sugar prices are prevailing at ₹41/kg (US\$530 /tonnes)
- Ethanol blending in the country has reached 10.17%. OMCs have contracted for 445 crore litre out of the total requirement of 459 crore litre for 2020-21 (December – October). Out of this total, OMCs have lifted 283 crore litre of ethanol till July 17, 2022. The government has also declared incentives for ethanol supply from June-November 2022 to the tune of ₹ 1-2/litre depending on the feedstock (B-heavy, sugarcane juice)

Exhibit 1: Peer Com	nparis	on																						
Sector / Company CN		TP		M Cap	E	EPS growth (%)			EBITDA margins (%)			PE (x)				P/B (x)				RoCE (%)				
Sector / Company	(₹)	(₹)	Rating	(₹ Cr)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY21	FY22	FY23E F	Y24E	FY21	FY22	FY23E I	Y24E
Balrampur Chini (BALCHI)	350	515	Buy	7354	-3.2	-0.3	20.1	51.2	14.8	14.4	16.5	18.6	15.3	15.4	12.8	8.5	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.2	16.4	15.3	16.0	23.1
Dalmia Bharat Sugar (DALSUG	346	490	Buy	2796	39.9	10.0	15.8	16.5	17.6	14.8	18.0	19.0	10.3	9.4	8.1	7.0	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.1	13.3	12.3	15.5	17.7
Triveni Engineering (TRIENG)	226	350	Buy	5465	-9.9	43.9	17.1	21.8	11.9	14.8	14.9	17.1	18.5	12.9	11.0	9.0	3.7	3.0	2.5	2.1	19.4	15.8	18.3	20.5
Dwarikesh sugar (DWASUG)	108	150	Buy	2024	24.5	69.6	17.1	48.7	10.9	14.7	14.3	18.9	22.1	13.0	11.1	7.5	3.7	3.2	2.5	2.0	14.4	20.6	20.4	30.3
Avadh Sugar (AVASUG)	521	790	Buy	1042	-12.4	60.3	45.2	16.1	9.6	11.0	12.9	13.8	13.4	8.4	5.8	5.0	1.6	1.3	1.1	0.9	11.5	12.5	16.0	18.6
																								-

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Sugar industry saw higher cost of production in 2021-22 sugar season owing to increase in sugarcane prices and lower sugar recovery due to adverse weather conditions in UP. Moreover, sugar prices have risen ~6-7% covering the increase in cost of production partially. This has resulted in dip in sugar segment profitability. However, we believe sugarcane availability is likely to increase in UP & sugar recovery is expected to improve in 2022-23 season given introduction of newer sugarcane varieties & expected favourable weather conditions. Further, sugar companies are increasing their ethanol capacities significantly, which would accelerate sugarcane diversion towards ethanol. We expect 34% jump in distillery volumes for Avadh in FY23. Further, with the strong free cash flow generation, the company would be able to significantly repay its debt. We remain positive on the company's ethanol revenue growth as well as debt reduction possibility in medium term. We maintain our **BUY** recommendation on the stock with the revised target price of ₹ 790 / share (earlier:₹ 890).

	Q1FY23	Q1FY22	YoY (%)	Q4FY22	QoQ (%)	Comments
Total Operating Income	688.1	618.8	11.2	758.7	-9.3	Revenue increased by 11.2% led by 47.3% growth in distillery business
Other Operating Income	0.0	0.0	NC	0.0	NC	
Raw Material Expenses	550.1	482.6	14.0	570.2	-3.5	Cost of production increased on account of increase in sugarcane prices & lower sugar recovery in 2021-22 season
Employee Expense	23.6	22.8	3.5	28.7	-17.9	
Other operating Expenses	50.2	43.5	15.4	74.9	-33.0	
EBITDA	64.2	70.0	-8.3	84.9	-24.4	Operating profit dipped 8.3%
EBITDA Margin (%)	9.3	11.3	-198 bps	11.2	-187 bps	
Depreciation	12.5	12.8	-2.6	12.6	-0.7	
Interest	21.8	28.5	-23.4	19.7	10.9	Interest cost down 23.4% with ₹ 277 crore reduction in debt in last one year
Other Income	0.3	0.5	-30.3	1.6	-79.7	
РВТ	30.2	29.2	3.6	54.4	-44.4	
Tax Outgo	10.5	10.2	NC	3.0	250.1	
PAT	19.7	18.9	3.9	51.3	NC	Net profit grew by 3.9% during the quarter
Key Metrics						
Sugar sales volume (in tonnes)	1.4	1.5	-6.6	1.7	-17.8	Sugar sales was down given export sales was lower compared to base quarter
Domestic Sugar realisation (₹ per kg)	34.7	32.6	6.4	32.9	5.5	Sugar realisation was up by 6.4%
Distillery volumes (in crore litre)	2.7	1.9	41.0	2.2	21.4	Distillery volumes increased by 41% given the company expanded distillery capacity in March 2022
Distillery realisation (₹ per litre)	60.5	57.9	4.5	62.2	-2.7	Distillery realisation was up on account of higher proportion of B-heavy & sugarcance juice volumes

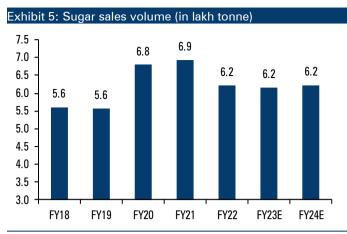
Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

		FY23E			FY24E		
(₹ Crore)	Old	New	% change	Old	New	% change	Comments
Net sales	2,969.8	2919.4	-1.7	3,043.7	2967.8	-2.5	We cut our sugar volume estimates for FY23E & FY24E
ebitda	387.6	377.3	-2.6	420.6	409.2	-2.7	
EBITDA Margin (%)	13.1	12.9	-13 bps	13.8	13.8	-3 bps	
							We increase our interest cost estimate given strong cash
PAT	191.4	180.6	-5.7	232.1	209.6	-9.7	flows are utilised for faster farmer payment & hence debt payment is slower than expected
EPS (₹)	95.7	90.3	-5.7	116.1	104.8	-9.7	

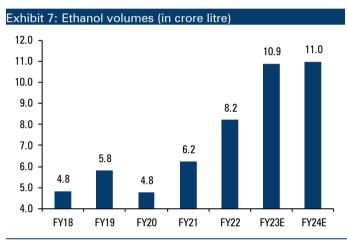
			Current				Ear	lier	
	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY23E	FY24E	
Sugar Sold (in tonne)	5,56,500	6,79,600	6,92,800	6,20,900	6,16,332	6,22,495	6,45,736	6,52,193	We cut our sugar volume estimates inline with existing monthly quota for FY23
Sugar Price (₹ per tonne)	30,696	29,962	31,720	34,016	35,000	35,200	35,000	35,500	We cut our sugar price estimates for FY24E
Distillery volume (in cr litre)	5.8	4.8	6.2	8.2	10.9	11.0	10.9	11.0	
Distillery price (₹ per KL)	43.7	49.4	55.4	59.0	60.7	61.9	59.0	60.2	We change our distillery realisation estimate upward due to increasing proportion of Sugarcane juice ethanol
Power Units sold	19.0	17.6	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.9	14.8	14.9	
Price per unit (₹ per units)	5.0	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	

Source: ICICI Direct Research

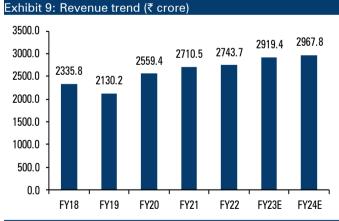
Key Metrics



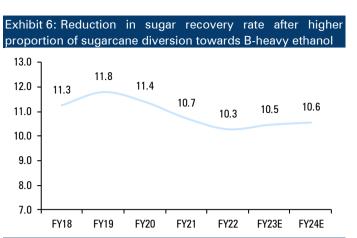
Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company



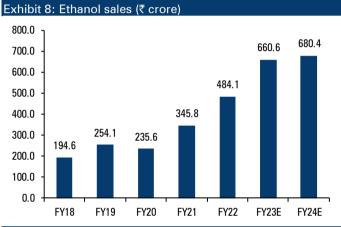
Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

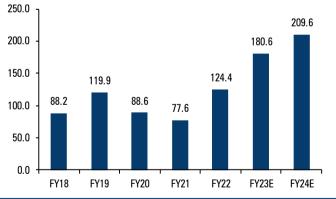


Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 10: Adjusted PAT trend (₹ crore)



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

	Sales	Growth	EPS	Growth	PE	EV/EBITDA	RoNW	RoCE
	(₹ cr)	(%)	(₹)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)
FY21	2710.5	5.9	38.8	-12.4	13.4	8.6	11.7	11.5
FY22	2743.7	1.2	62.2	60.3	8.4	7.4	15.4	12.5
FY23E	2919.4	6.4	90.3	45.2	5.8	5.4	18.6	16.0
FY24E	2967.8	1.7	104.8	16.1	5.0	4.2	18.3	18.6

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Financial Summary

Exhibit 12: Profit and loss	statement		Ę	₹ crore
(Year-end March)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E
Total Operating Income	2,710.5	2,743.7	2,919.4	2,967.8
Growth (%)	5.9	1.2	6.4	1.7
Raw Material Expenses	2,127.7	2,114.5	2,177.1	2,183.2
Employee Expenses	97.3	100.1	110.9	118.7
Administrative Expenses	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Excise Duty	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other expenses	226.2	226.3	254.0	256.7
Total Operating Expenditure	2,451.2	2,440.8	2,542.1	2,558.6
EBITDA	259.3	302.8	377.3	409.2
Growth (%)	-0.8	16.8	24.6	8.5
Depreciation	48.3	51.3	58.1	60.1
Interest	116.0	88.4	82.1	73.2
Other Income	6.4	4.1	4.3	4.4
РВТ	95.0	163.1	237.1	275.8
Exceptional items	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Tax	23.8	42.8	60.8	70.6
РАТ	77.6	124.4	180.6	209.6
Growth (%)	-12.4	60.3	45.2	16.1
EPS (₹)	38.8	62.2	90.3	104.8

Exhibit 13: Cash flow state	ement			₹ crore
(Year-end March)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E
Profit/Loss after Tax	101.4	167.2	180.6	209.6
Add: Depreciation	48.4	51.3	58.1	60.1
Add: Interest	116.0	88.4	0.0	0.0
(Inc)/dec in Current Assets	268.3	247.8	35.8	70.5
Inc/(dec) in Current Liabilities	-49.3	-206.5	53.7	53.1
CF from operating activities	465.5	313.7	328.1	393.3
(Inc)/dec in Investments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(Inc)/dec in Fixed Assets	-110.9	-55.5	-100.0	-50.0
Others	2.9	1.9	2.3	0.0
CF from investing activities	-108.0	-53.6	-97.7	-50.0
Issue/(Buy back) of Equity	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Inc/(dec) in loan funds	-53.0	55.3	-190.0	-290.0
Dividend paid & dividend tax	-8.0	-8.0	-20.0	-36.0
Inc/(dec) in Sec. premium	-119.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	-177.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
CF from financing activities	-358.0	-264.3	-210.0	-326.0
Net Cash flow	-0.5	-4.1	20.4	17.3
Opening Cash	5.4	4.9	0.8	21.2
Cash with bank	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Closing Cash	4.9	0.8	21.2	38.5

FY21

38.8

62.9

FY22

62.2

87.8

FY23E

90.3

119.4

FY24E

104.8

134.9

9.4

7.1

9.5

5.0

4.2

0.6

0.4 0.9

1.8

0.6

2.4

0.2

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 15: Key ratios

Per share data (₹)

EPS Cash EPS

Exhibit 14: Balance Sheet				₹ crore
	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E
Liabilities				
Equity Capital	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Reserve and Surplus	645.7	790.4	950.9	1,124.5
Total Shareholders funds	665.8	810.4	971.0	1,144.5
Total Debt	1,215.1	1,212.8	1,022.8	732.8
Long Term Provisions	4.0	1.7	1.7	1.7
Other Non-current Liabilities	12.4	26.1	26.1	26.1
Total Liabilities	1,897.3	2,051.1	2,021.6	1,905.2
Assets				
Gross Block	1,309.6	1,353.4	1,453.4	1,503.4
Less: Acc Depreciation	225.2	276.5	334.7	394.8
Net Block	1,084.4	1,076.9	1,118.7	1,108.6
Capital WIP	14.0	8.6	8.6	8.6
Intangible assets	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Non Current Investments	15.2	46.8	46.8	46.8
Other non-current assets	7.7	23.3	23.3	23.3
Current Assets				
Inventory	1,350.6	1,169.7	1,135.3	1,071.7
Debtors	55.1	85.7	84.4	77.5
Cash	6.9	3.1	21.2	38.5
Loans & Advances	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Other Current Assets	113.9	15.4	15.4	15.4
Current Liabilities				
Creditors	539.5	310.5	314.1	317.3
Provisions	6.1	7.3	7.3	7.3
Other CL	206.0	61.6	111.6	161.6
Net Current Assets	775.5	895.0	823.6	717.4
Total Assets	1,897.3	2,051.1	2,021.6	1,905.2

405.2 332.9 485.5 572.3 BV DPS 4.0 4.0 10.0 18.0 Cash Per Share 138.3 197.4 112.6 167.3 Operating Ratios (%) EBITDA Margin 9.6 11.0 12.9 13.8 PBT / Net Sales 3.7 6.1 8.3 PAT Margin 2.9 4.5 6.2 Inventory days 181.9 155.6 141.9 131.8 10.5 Debtor days 7.4 11.4 72.6 41.3 39.0 Creditor days 39.3 Return Ratios (%) 11.7 15.4 18.6 18.3 RoE RoCE 11.5 12.5 16.0 18.6 Valuation Ratios (x) P/E 13.4 8.4 5.8 EV / EBITDA 8.6 7.4 5.4 EV / Net Sales 0.8 0.8 0.7 Market Cap / Sales 0.4 0.4 0.4 Price to Book Value 1.3 1.1 1.6 **Solvency Ratios** 4.7 4.0 2.7 Debt/EBITDA Debt / Equity 1.8 1.5 1.1 **Current Ratio** 2.6 3.4 2.9 Quick Ratio 0.3 0.3 0.2 Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 16: ICICI Dir	ect co	over	age u	nivers	se (S	ugar)																	
Sector / Company	CMP	TP		M Cap		EPS	(₹)		P/E (x)				EV/EBITDA (x)			P/B				RoCE (%)				
Seciol / Company	(₹)	(₹)	Rating	(₹ Cr)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY21	FY22	FY23E F	Y24E	FY21	FY22	Y23E I	FY24E
Balrampur Chini (BALCHI)	350	515	Buy	7,354	22.8	22.8	27.4	41.3	15.3	15.4	12.8	8.5	11.9	12.1	10.3	7.2	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.2	16.4	15.3	16.0	23.1
Dalmia Bharat Sugar (DALSUG	346	490	Buy	2,796	33.4	36.7	42.5	49.6	10.3	9.4	8.1	7.0	8.2	8.3	6.3	5.1	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.1	13.3	12.3	15.5	17.7
Triveni Engineering (TRIENG)	226	350	Buy	5,465	12.2	17.5	20.5	25.0	18.5	12.9	11.0	9.0	11.7	11.3	9.1	7.4	3.7	3.0	2.5	2.1	19.4	15.8	18.3	20.5
Dwarikesh sugar (DWASUG)	108	150	Buy	2,024	4.9	8.2	9.6	14.4	22.1	13.0	11.1	7.5	13.5	9.0	8.2	5.3	3.7	3.2	2.5	2.0	14.4	20.6	20.4	30.3
Avadh Sugar (AVASUG)	521	790	Buy	1,042	38.8	62.2	90.3	104.8	13.4	8.4	5.8	5.0	8.6	7.4	5.4	4.2	1.6	1.3	1.1	0.9	11.5	12.5	16.0	18.6

Source: Bloomberg, ICICI Direct Research

RATING RATIONALE

ICICI Direct endeavors to provide objective opinions and recommendations. ICICI Direct assigns ratings to its stocks according -to their notional target price vs. current market price and then categorizes them as Buy, Hold, Reduce and Sell. The performance horizon is two years unless specified and the notional target price is defined as the analysts' valuation for a stock

Buy: >15% Hold: -5% to 15%; Reduce: -15% to -5%; Sell: <-15%



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