

October 29, 2020

The Manager Listing Department, BSE Limited, Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers, Dalal Street, Mumbai- 400 001	The Manager Listing Department, National Stock Exchange of India Limited, Exchange Plaza, 5th Floor, Plot No. C/1, G Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra- East, Mumbai- 400 051
Ref:- Scrip Code: 532953	Ref:- Symbol: VGUARD

Sub: Unaudited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the Quarter ended September 30, 2020 published in newspapers.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Pursuant to Regulation 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, we are enclosing the Unaudited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter ended September 30, 2020, published in Business Standard (English) & Deepika (Malayalam) on October 29, 2020.

The Unaudited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter ended September 30, 2020 is available in the company's website, www.vguard.in.

Kindly take the above on record.

Thanking you,

For V-Guard Industries Limited



Jayasree K
Company Secretary
Membership No. A15900



Encl: as above

V-GUARD INDUSTRIES LTD.

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RIL Q2 play may improve, recovery still far

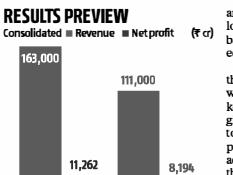
AMBITHA PILLAI
Mumbai, October 28

For Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries (RIL), the financial performance for the July-September quarter (second quarter, or Q2) is expected to show sequential improvement. Full recovery, however, is still some quarters away.

"RIL is expected to show sequential recovery. The timeline for pre-Covid-level performance will sync with the macroeconomic improvement (as and when it happens), said Nitin Nohria, vice-chairman, Amul and RIL India.

According to news reports, the oil-to-telecom company has more or less bucked the paycuts it had implemented for the hydrocarbon division in April. The petrochemicals (petchem) business is expected to post significant sequential recovery for margins under review; however, refining margins remain weak.

"The management's decision to roll back paycuts for the hydrocarbon business may reflect demand erosion not being as elongated as expected earlier. However, the management may pro-



vide more clarity on it," added Tiwari.

In a Bloomberg poll, 14 analysts estimated a net profit of ₹8,194 crore; 10 analysts estimated a revenue of ₹11,262 crore for the company.

A year ago, RIL had reported a consolidated revenue of ₹16.3 trillion and a net profit of ₹11,262 crore.

"Although Q2 earnings could improve on a sequential basis, we see them 20 per cent below pre-Covid levels. We estimate RIL's earnings to normalize post-Covid levels by early 2021,"

given such signs have emerged in the current quarter," said Morgan Stanley analysts in a note on the firm this month. Analysts with JP Morgan also similar views, tying RIL's return to recovery to hikes in tariff.

RIL's earnings trend is unlikely to change materially in the near term; 2021-22 earnings recovery will mostly be dependent on a telecom tariff hike, analysts said, adding, "Even the second half of 2020-21 earnings recovery will be dependent on tariff hikes."

On a sequential basis, RIL's petchem business is expected to report an improvement in earnings. "Q2 earnings should show sequential improvement, with petchem being in the driver's seat," the Morgan Stanley report said.

Morgan Stanley analysts expect 25 per cent sequential improvement in earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortisation (EBITDA) for this segment owing largely to a blend of improved polyethylene prices, olefin spreads, and strong polyvinyl chloride

and styrene value chains, along with lower exports. On a year-on-year (YoY) basis, India's petrochemicals is still expected to be down 38 per cent.

Analysts also warn of recovery in the retail and refining segment to be weaker than the forecasts. Certain brokerage firms estimate gross refining margins for the period under review to range between ₹57 per barrel and ₹6 per barrel. Analysts at Morgan Stanley add that their ₹57 per barrel estimate is the lowest in the market.

The telecom business is expected to report a 47 per cent decline and 32 per cent YoY growth in revenues, on an average basis, over successive quarters.

Analysts estimate 13 per cent sequential growth in net profit and a significant 188 per cent jump on a YoY basis.

The quarter under review also saw the company on a deal spree for its retail segment, similar to its partial divestment of stake in the digital services business a quarter ago.

The Street will also look for management commentary on the issues around the proposed acquisition of Future Group's retail assets.

Schneider deal boosts L&T net

AMBITHA PILLAI
Mumbai, October 28

Engineering conglomerate Larsen & Toubro (L&T) reported a net profit of ₹5,520 crore for the September quarter — a number below time-to-sell asset proceeds, but offset by impairment costs.

The firm also announced a special dividend of ₹18 per share. In its management commentary, L&T refused to share a guidance for revenue or order inflow, citing Covid-related uncertainty.

The firm reported a consolidated profit after tax (PAT), including the profit from discontinued operations for the quarter, at ₹31,035 crore, down 12 per cent on a year-on-year (YoY) basis. Top executives said the end of the June quarter lingered in the first half financial year performance, and it would take another couple of quarters to regain lost ground.

L&T bagged new orders worth ₹28,693 crore in the quarter under review and saw a 19 per cent sequential improvement. On a YoY basis, order inflow was down 42 per cent. L&T's outstanding order book as of September was at ₹2.98 trillion, with an increase of ₹3,918.5 crore.



Revenue dips 12% due to lingering impact of Covid

For Q2, L&T reported gross revenue of ₹31,035 crore, down 12 per cent on a year-on-year (YoY) basis. Top executives said the end of the June quarter lingered in the first half financial year performance, and it would take another couple of quarters to regain lost ground.

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national order book constituting 24 per cent to the order book.

SN Subrahmanyam, managing director and CEO said: "Private capital expenditure is still another two years away. We will see some investments, but it will be scarce."

The net profit after tax and share in profit/(loss) of joint ventures/assets from continuing operations before exceptional items, which painted a fairer picture of the regular operations for the September quarter, was ₹140 crore.

It said the impact of the pandemic in terms of lower revenue, higher credit provisions in the financial services business, and disruption of metro services led to a decline of 45 per cent from ₹2,552 crore reported in the same period a year ago.

L&T also sold the sale of its telecommunication business to Schneider in August.

On Wednesday, the company declared a special dividend of ₹18 per share to mark the successful completion of the divestment. Debt reduction has commenced; debt is now at ₹1.46 trillion, lower from ₹1.55 trillion a quarter ago.

Saugata Gupta, managing

Marico Q2 net rises 8%, led by volume growth

VIVIEN SUSHAN PINTO
Mumbai, 28 October

Marico reported a nearly 8 per cent increase in net profit to ₹273 crore for the September quarter. This was led by strong volume growth in its domestic business (11 per cent) and a stable performance in international markets.

Q2 revenue was up nearly 9 per cent to ₹1,989 crore, led by sales of key brands Parachute, Saifafe, and Safola. The cooking oil and packaged foods portfolio under Safola, in particular, saw strong double-digit growth, benefitting from sustained in-home consumption, analysts said.

Revenue up nearly 9% to ₹1,989 crore

director and chief executive, said: "The sector has witnessed some green shoots of revival with the gradual easing of lockdown restrictions. The inherent strength of our franchise and deep distribution network has allowed us to deliver strong growth in Q2." Total expenses were up nearly 8 per cent to ₹1,461 crore in Q2, as the firm witnessed inflationary trends.

However, operating expenses declined in non-core portfolios and Saifafe. The cooking oil and packaged foods portfolio under Safola, in particular, saw strong double-digit growth, benefitting from sustained in-home consumption, analysts said.

Saugata Gupta, managing

year-on-year to 20.7 per cent.

Dr Reddy's engages Indian partners to develop Sputnik V

SOHINI DAS
Mumbai, 28 October

Hyderabad-based pharma firm Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) said it had engaged with partners in India to make the Russian vaccine candidate Sputnik V and is open to partnering with other global and Indian firms to distribute vaccines or Covid-19 therapies.

Erez Arieli, chief executive officer (CEO) of DRL, said that it had "engaged" with partners in India to manufacture Sputnik V.

While Israeli

did not divulge details on the partners, he said the data from clinical trials was expected not before March next year.

The data from Phase 1 trials and Phase 2 trials can be analysed to arrive at a conclusion. It is up to the regulator to take a call, and then we will launch the vaccine with the regulator's approval," he said.

DRL is restoring applications and recovering data after it faced a cyber attack earlier this month. All critical operations are being restored in a controlled manner, it said.

Now, no data breach has been reported during the investigation so far.

The company had to shut down its website after the attack, which was a ransomware attack. DRL did not comment on whether the company had to shell out any money to the hackers.

Meanwhile, the company also indicated that it was open to partnerships for more vac-

ines to combat Covid-19 patients.

DRL will conduct Phase 2 trials on 100 subjects and the data would be submitted to the Drug Controller General of India. This would be a multi-centre and randomised controlled study, which would include safety and immunogenicity studies. Upon receiving not from the regulator, DRL can proceed to Phase 3 trials on 1,400 subjects.

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