

Q2FY25 Result Update

Arvind Fashions

Operating margin expands; retail LTL positive despite a slowdown

- Revenue grew 8% YoY to INR1,273cr (est. INR1,244cr) led by retail and online channels. Retail LTL sales stood at 4.6% despite an overall slowdown in the sector.
- Gross margin was flat at 50.4% with gross profit up 9% YoY to INR641cr. Higher contribution from the online channel resulted in a flattish gross margin despite lesser discounted sales.
- EBITDA rose 17% YoY to INR162cr (est. INR156cr), with a 90bp expansion in EBITDA margin to 12.7%, led by higher gross margin, cost efficiencies, and operating leverage kicking in.
- PAT (including minority interest) stood at INR45cr (est. INR47cr) versus INR41cr YoY. Excluding minority interest, PAT grew 38% YoY to INR30cr.
- We reaffirm 'BUY' with a FY26 SoTP-based revised TP of INR677.

Retail and online channels lead the show; wholesale declines

Contribution from retail/wholesale/online channel stood at 37%/33%/30% versus 37%/36%/27% YoY. The retail area grew 3% QoQ to 11.5lk sq. ft. on: i) net additions of 36k sq. foot, and ii) LTL of 4.6%, despite subdued demand, supported by higher marketing spends. It added 10 net EBOs in Q2 and is targeting another 150 (mostly asset-light FOFO) gross additions, with 15% net area addition, in FY25. This will lead to accelerated growth in the retail channel in H2FY25.

The online channel grew 21% YoY on the back of a 40% growth in online B2C. The focus is on sales through its own website as it has better control over the supply chain. The online B2B channel is on the growth path. The wholesale channel fell 1% YoY on muted market conditions and closure of low margin, tail-end distribution points.

Growth was driven by Tommy Hilfiger (TH) and Calvin Klein (CK) brands (premiumisation), with margin hovering ~20%. The turnaround in Arrow has begun with profitable growth. Its margin should expand from hereon. ARVINDFA is seeing green shoots in Flying Machine (FM) and has launched products targeting the mass premium segment which appears promising. FM is a year behind Arrow in terms of growth and margin. The management is refreshing the FM brand, with the retail channel in focus. We expect a consolidated revenue CAGR of 13% over FY24–26 driven by footprint expansion, higher LTL in the retail channel, and growth in the online B2C channel.

Margin expansion continues

Gross margin was flat despite a higher full price sell through due to on greater contribution from the online channel. The management views this margin expansion as sustainable. Operating margin expanded by 90bp on a favourable operating leverage, stable gross margin, and cost efficiencies. We expect ad expenses, which grew 30bp YoY, to stay ~4% in FY25.

Adjacent categories are performing well with a contribution of more than 20%. In USPA, adjacent categories contribute over 30%. Womenswear is growing at a very strong rate on a low base. ARVINDFA has begun opening large sized stores to accommodate all its brands and the adjacent categories in USPA. We expect a 230bp expansion in EBITDA margin over FY24–26 to 14.3% in FY26 led by gross margin expansion, cost efficiencies, and a favourable operating leverage.

Valuation and view

The company delivered positive LTL sales despite subdued demand which indicates market share gains. The focus on portfolio rationalisation and operational efficiencies, rather than growth, has yielded results. Operating cash flows grew by more than 2x on better cost control and maintaining a lean working capital. Going forward, we expect ARVINDFA to floor the pedal on growth as market conditions improve.

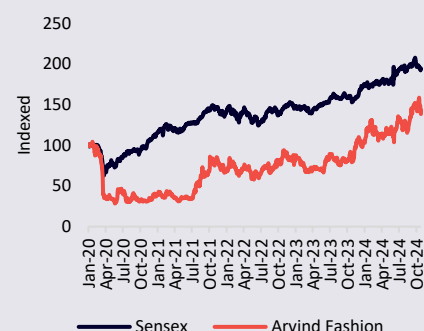
Our revenue/EBITDA estimate stays broadly unchanged given the steady growth with a slight cut on account of muted growth in the distribution channel. We expect a revenue/EBITDA/PAT CAGR of 13%/24%/72% over FY24–26. Given the growth opportunities, execution capabilities, quality management, category extensions, and improved operational performance, we maintain 'BUY' with a SoTP-based TP to INR677 (15x/20x/10x/5x FY26E EV/EBITDA for USPA/PVH/Arrow/FM).

Key financials

| Particulars | Q2FY25 | Q2FY24 | YoY (%) | Q1FY25 | QoQ (%) | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Net sales (INR cr) | 1,273 | 1,174 | 8.5 | 955 | 33.3 | 4,069 | 4,259 | 4,760 | 5,465 |
| Gross profit (INR cr) | 641 | 591 | 8.6 | 527 | 21.6 | 2,003 | 2,222 | 2,528 | 2,940 |
| Gross margin (%) | 50.4 | 50.3 | 4bp | 55.2% | (488bp) | 49.2% | 52.2% | 53.1% | 53.8 |
| EBITDA (INR cr) | 162 | 139 | 16.9 | 116 | 40.5 | 427 | 511 | 624 | 781 |
| EBITDA margin (%) | 12.7 | 11.8 | 92bp | 12.1 | 65bp | 10.5 | 12 | 13.1 | 14.3 |
| PAT (INR cr) | 30 | 22 | 37.9 | 14 | 114.6 | 91 | 137 | 126 | 224 |
| EV/EBITDA ratio (x) | | | | | | 14 | 11 | 12 | 9 |
| P/E ratio (x) | | | | | | 60 | 72 | 37 | 23 |

CMP: INR567
Rating: BUY
Target price: INR677
Upside: 22%
Date: October 30, 2024

| Bloomberg: | ARVINDFA:IN |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 52-week range (INR): | 298/600 |
| M-cap (INR cr): | 6,705 |
| Promoter holding (%) | 35.21 |



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Q2FY25 result highlights

| Particulars (INR cr) | Q2FY25 | Q2FY24 | YoY (%) | Q1FY25 | QoQ (%) | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Income from operations | 1,273 | 1,174 | 8.5 | 955 | 33.3 | 4,069 | 4,259 | 4,760 | 5,465 |
| Gross profit | 641 | 591 | 8.6 | 527 | 21.6 | 2,003 | 2,222 | 2,528 | 2,940 |
| Gross margin (%) | 50.4 | 50.3 | 4bp | 55.2 | (488bp) | 49.2 | 52.2 | 53.1 | 53.8 |
| Employee expense | 66 | 65 | 1.8 | 66 | (0.1) | 244 | 260 | 286 | 328 |
| Other expense | 413 | 387 | 6.7 | 346 | 19.4 | 1,322 | 1,443 | 1,604 | 1,814 |
| EBITDA | 162 | 139 | 16.9 | 116 | 40.5 | 437 | 519 | 638 | 798 |
| EBITDA margin (%) | 12.7 | 11.8 | 92bp | 12.1 | 65bp | 10.7 | 12.2 | 13.4 | 14.6 |
| Depreciation | 64 | 55 | 17.2 | 61 | 4.9 | 203 | 230 | 251 | 263 |
| Interest expense | 39 | 36 | 7 | 38 | 1.3 | 121 | 144 | 145 | 135 |
| Other income | 7 | 4 | 72 | 7 | (3.5) | 50 | 34 | 38 | 44 |
| Profit before tax | 67 | 52 | 27.9 | 24 | 182.3 | 131 | 164 | 266 | 427 |
| Profit after tax | 30 | 22 | 37.9 | 14 | 114.6 | 91 | 107 | 199 | 320 |
| Extraordinary items | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Adjusted net profit | 45 | 41 | 10.4 | 14 | 227.6 | 91 | 137 | 126 | 224 |

Revised estimates

| (INR cr) | FY25E | | | FY26E | | |
|---------------------|-------|---------|------------|-------|---------|------------|
| | Old | Revised | Change (%) | Old | Revised | Change (%) |
| Net sales | 4,840 | 4,760 | (1.6) | 5,559 | 5,465 | (1.7) |
| Other income | 38 | 38 | | 44 | 44 | |
| Total income | 4,879 | 4,799 | | 5,603 | 5,508 | |
| EBITDA | 634 | 624 | (1.6) | 795 | 781 | (1.7) |
| EBITDA margin (%) | 13.1 | 13.1 | | 14.3 | 14.3 | |
| PBT | 276 | 266 | (3.8) | 441 | 427 | (3.1) |
| PBT margin | 5.7 | 5.5 | | 7.9 | 7.8 | |
| Net profit | 207 | 199 | (3.8) | 330 | 320 | (3.1) |
| Adjusted net profit | 131 | 126 | (4.2) | 231 | 224 | (3) |
| EPS (INR) | 15.6 | 15 | (3.8) | 24.8 | 24.1 | (3.1) |
| Adjusted EPS (INR) | 15.6 | 15 | (3.8) | 24.8 | 24.1 | (3.1) |

Financials in charts

Exhibit 1: Revenue trend (INR cr)

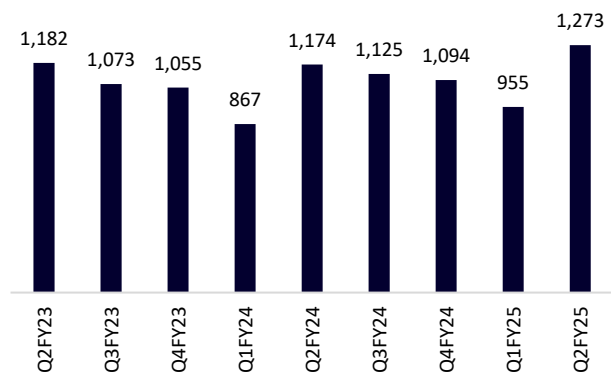
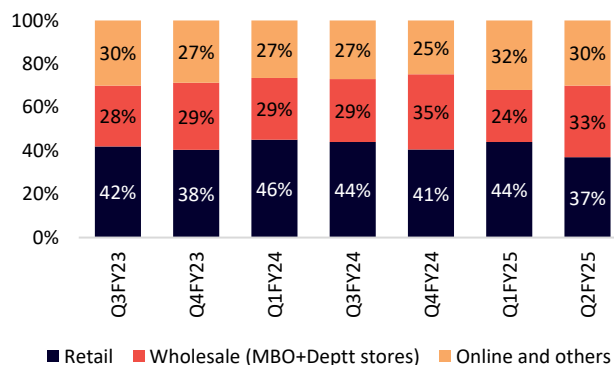


Exhibit 2: Channel mix tilts towards retail



**Exiting Sephora and other brands affects revenue print*

Exhibit 3: Lesser discounting aids gross margin expansion

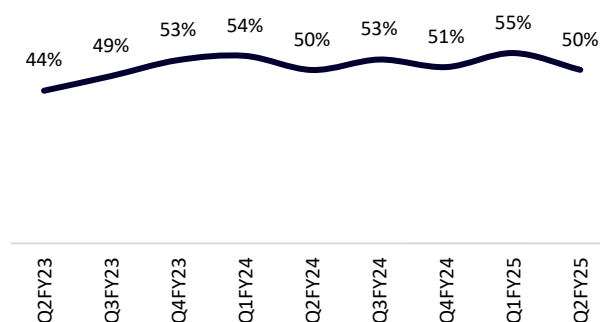


Exhibit 4: Sharp focus on margin expansion

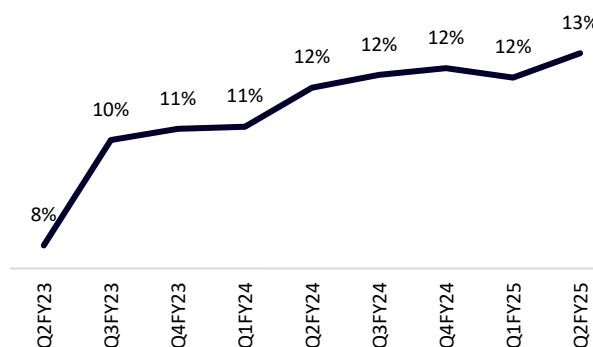


Exhibit 5: Continues to pare down debt (net D/E ratio)

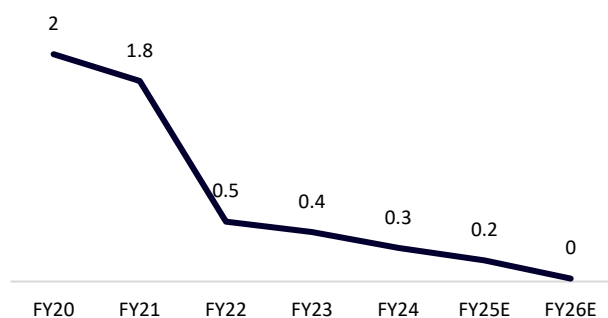
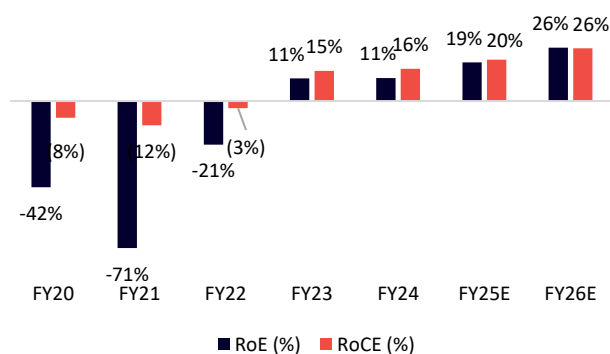


Exhibit 6: Return ratios to improve



Source: Nuvama Wealth Research

Previous outlook

Q1FY25: The company delivered positive LTL sales despite a subdued demand. The focus on portfolio rationalisation and operational efficiencies rather than growth has yielded results. We expect ARVINDFA to floor the pedal on growth in upcoming quarters. An early onset of the festive season bodes well for the company. We expect brand extensions to provide a strong lever for growth and margin expansion. Arrow should start growing from H2FY25. However, FM should take some time to grow and turn profitable. These two brands can provide extra levers for margin expansion and growth. Our revenue/EBITDA estimate stays broadly unchanged given the steady growth. However, our PAT estimate has changed due to slightly higher depreciation and interest cost. We expect a revenue/ EBITDA/PAT CAGR of 14%/25%/74% over FY24–26. Given the growth opportunities, execution capabilities, quality management, category extensions, and improved operational performance, we maintain ‘BUY’ with a TP to INR677 based on SoTP valuation (15x/18x/10x/5x FY26E EV/EBITDA for USPA/PVH/Arrow/FM).

Q4FY24: ARVINDFA’s sharp focus on cash flow-led growth has yielded results. Gross debt fell by INR132cr in FY24. It delivered a positive LTL despite subdued demand conditions. Its focus on portfolio rationalisation and operational efficiencies, rather than growth, has yielded results. We expect growth to be an area of focus from here on and see brand extensions providing a strong lever for growth and margin expansion. The expansion in RoCE is expected to continue. We slightly upgrade our EBITDA/PAT estimate on better demand conditions ahead. We expect a revenue/EBITDA/PAT CAGR of 14%/23%/44% over FY24–26. Given its growth prospects, execution capabilities, quality management, category extensions, and improved operational performance, we maintain ‘BUY’ but revise our TP to INR677 (INR651 earlier), based on 12x FY26E EV/EBITDA.



Financials

Income Statement

| (INR cr) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Income from operations | 3,056 | 4,069 | 4,259 | 4,760 | 5,465 |
| Direct cost | 1,710 | 2,067 | 2,037 | 2,233 | 2,525 |
| Employee cost | 237 | 244 | 260 | 286 | 328 |
| Other expenses | 929 | 1,332 | 1,451 | 1,619 | 1,831 |
| Total operating expenses | 2,876 | 3,642 | 3,749 | 4,137 | 4,683 |
| EBITDA | 180 | 427 | 511 | 624 | 781 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 233 | 203 | 230 | 251 | 263 |
| EBIT | -53 | 224 | 280 | 372 | 518 |
| Interest expense | 124 | 121 | 144 | 145 | 135 |
| Other income | 67 | 50 | 34 | 38 | 44 |
| Extraordinary items | 133 | 0 | -6 | 0 | 0 |
| Profit before tax | -243 | 153 | 164 | 266 | 427 |
| Provision for tax | -6 | 40 | 57 | 66 | 107 |
| Core profit | -237 | 113 | 107 | 199 | 320 |
| Profit after tax | -237 | 113 | 107 | 199 | 320 |
| Minority Interest | 30 | 22 | 0 | 74 | 96 |
| Share from associates | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Adjusted net profit | -267 | 91 | 107 | 126 | 224 |
| Equity shares outstanding (cr) | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| Basic EPS (INR) | -10.1 | 6.8 | 8.0 | 15.0 | 24.1 |
| Diluted shares (cr) | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| Fully diluted EPS (INR) | (10.1) | 6.8 | 8.0 | 15.0 | 24.1 |
| Dividend per share | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dividend payout (%) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Common size metrics as a percentage of net revenue

| Year to March | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|-------------------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Operating expense | 94.1 | 89.5 | 88.0 | 86.9 | 85.7 |
| Depreciation | 7.6 | 5.0 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 4.8 |
| Interest expense | 4.1 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 2.5 |
| EBITDA margin | 5.9 | 10.5 | 12.0 | 13.1 | 14.3 |
| Net profit margin | (8.7) | 2.2 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 4.1 |

Growth metrics (%)

| Year to March | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|---------------|------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| Revenue | 59.8 | 33.2 | 4.7 | 11.8 | 14.8 |
| EBITDA | (11,430.8) | 137.0 | 19.6 | 22.2 | 25.3 |
| PBT | (52.3) | (163.1) | 6.9 | 62.1 | 60.7 |
| Net profit | (57.0) | (147.7) | (5.8) | 86.9 | 60.7 |
| EPS | (73.0) | (167.6) | 17.1 | 86.9 | 60.7 |

Balance Sheet

| (INR cr) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Equity share capital | 53 | 53 | 53 | 53 | 53 |
| Reserves and surplus | 697 | 857 | 950 | 1,076 | 1,300 |
| Shareholders' funds | 750 | 910 | 1,003 | 1,129 | 1,353 |
| Borrowings | 502 | 598 | 466 | 366 | 266 |
| Lease liabilities | 335 | 509 | 537 | 547 | 557 |
| Minority interest | 100 | 183 | 189 | 263 | 359 |
| Sources of funds | 1,688 | 2,199 | 2,195 | 2,304 | 2,535 |
| Gross block | 405 | 424 | 404 | 494 | 584 |
| Depreciation | 291 | 319 | 280 | 340 | 410 |
| Net block | 113 | 105 | 124 | 154 | 174 |
| Capital work in progress | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Right of use assets | 388 | 608 | 625 | 635 | 645 |
| Goodwill | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 |
| Intangible assets | 49 | 41 | 38 | 38 | 38 |
| Total fixed assets | 661 | 867 | 900 | 940 | 970 |
| Investments | 63 | 62 | 56 | 66 | 76 |
| Inventories | 831 | 982 | 909 | 1,004 | 1,153 |
| Sundry debtors | 572 | 560 | 647 | 652 | 749 |
| Cash and equivalents | 105 | 200 | 168 | 155 | 231 |
| Loans and advances | 528 | 535 | 477 | 527 | 577 |
| Other current assets | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total current assets | 2,036 | 2,277 | 2,201 | 2,339 | 2,709 |
| Sundry creditors and others | 1,312 | 1,329 | 1,257 | 1,392 | 1,572 |
| Provisions | 10 | 7 | 38 | 38 | 38 |
| Total current liabilities and provisions | 1,322 | 1,336 | 1,295 | 1,430 | 1,609 |
| Net current assets | 714 | 941 | 906 | 909 | 1,099 |
| Net deferred tax | 411 | 412 | 389 | 389 | 389 |
| Miscellaneous expenditure | -161 | -84 | -56 | 0 | 0 |
| Uses of funds | 1,688 | 2,199 | 2,195 | 2,304 | 2,535 |
| Book value per share (INR) | 57 | 68 | 75 | 85 | 102 |

Cash Flow Statement

(INR cr)

| Year to March | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Net profit | -249 | 44 | 101 | 199 | 320 |
| Add: Depreciation | 261 | 239 | 249 | 251 | 263 |
| Add: Miscellaneous expenses written off/other assets | 10 | 130 | 87 | 7 | 46 |
| Gross cash flow | 22 | 413 | 437 | 457 | 629 |
| Less: Changes in working capital | 278 | -96 | -3 | -15 | -115 |
| Operating cash flow | 300 | 317 | 440 | 442 | 514 |
| Less: Capex | 17 | -63 | -82 | -90 | -90 |
| Free cash flow | 284 | 381 | 522 | 532 | 604 |

Ratios

| Year to March | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|------------------------------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|
| RoAE (%) | -21.1 | 11.0 | 11.1 | 18.7 | 25.8 |
| RoACE (%) | -3.4 | 14.6 | 15.6 | 20.0 | 25.5 |
| Debtor days | 68 | 50 | 55 | 50 | 50 |
| Current ratio | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Debt/equity ratio | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Inventory (days) | 99 | 88 | 78 | 77 | 77 |
| Payable (days) | 125 | 91 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| Cash conversion cycle (days) | 42 | 47 | 53 | 47 | 47 |
| Debt/EBITDA ratio | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Adjusted debt/equity ratio | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.0 |

Valuation parameters

| Year to March | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|------|-------|-------|
| Diluted EPS (INR) | (10.1) | 6.8 | 8.0 | 15.0 | 24.1 |
| YoY growth (%) | (73.0) | (167.6) | 17.1 | 86.9 | 60.7 |
| CEPS (INR) | 7.5 | 22.1 | 25.3 | 33.9 | 43.9 |
| Diluted P/E ratio (x) | NA | 60.1 | 71.8 | 37.8 | 23.5 |
| Price/BV ratio (x) | 10.0 | 8.3 | 7.5 | 6.7 | 5.6 |
| EV/sales ratio (x) | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.4 |
| EV/EBITDA ratio (x) | 27.7 | 13.7 | 11.3 | 12.4 | 9.7 |
| Diluted shares outstanding | 13.2 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 13.3 |
| Basic EPS | (10.1) | 6.8 | 8.0 | 15.0 | 24.1 |
| Basic P/E ratio (x) | NA | 60.1 | 71.8 | 37.8 | 23.5 |
| Dividend yield (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

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