

Tepid volume growth caps the upside ...

About the stock: NMDC Ltd, formerly National Mineral Development Corporation, est. in 1958, is Navratna Public Sector Enterprise (PSE) under Ministry of Steel. Its largest iron ore mining company in India, with ~50 MT of iron production in FY26.

- It operates seven iron ore mining leases with total reserve of ~1,700 million tonne (MT), having the average Fe grade of ~64%.

Q1FY27 performance: NMDC reported a steady performance in Q1FY27. Total operating income for the quarter came in at ₹6,795 crore, (up 1% YoY). Iron ore sales volume of 11.7 million tonne (up 2% YoY). Reported EBITDA stood at ₹2,468 crore with corresponding EBITDA/tonne was at ₹2,104/tonne in Q1FY27 vs. ₹2,152/tonne in Q1FY26. PAT stood at ₹1,976 crore (flat YoY).

Investment Rationale:

- Low per capita steel consumption offers long-term growth potential:** Despite being the world's second-largest steel consumer, India's per-capita steel consumption of ~103 kg remains significantly below the global average of ~215 kg. The government aims to increase per-capita steel consumption to 160 kg by 2030-31, while targeting crude steel production capacity of 300 MT. This could potentially drive iron ore demand to ~430 MT. With over six decades of expertise in iron ore mining, NMDC is well positioned to benefit from this structural growth opportunity.
- Ambitious 100 MT production targets to capitalise on rising iron ore demand:** NMDC reported a 2% YoY increase in iron ore production to ~12 MT in Q1FY27 and has guided for 60 MT of production in FY27, supported by the ramp-up of newly commissioned mines. The company remains on track to achieve its long-term production target of 100 MTPA by FY30. To support this expansion, NMDC plans to invest ~₹50,000 crore across its mining operations, with a focus on capacity enhancement at Kirandul, Bacheli and Donimalai through additional crushing, screening and beneficiation facilities, along with the development of a 15 MTPA slurry pipeline and upgrades to evacuation infrastructure.
- Diversifying beyond Iron Ore to strengthen product portfolio:** NMDC is strategically expanding beyond iron ore by pursuing opportunities across critical minerals, including gold, diamonds, lithium, nickel, cobalt and rare earth elements. It has also commenced operations at the Tokisud North coal block, which has a peak production capacity of ~2.3 MTPA. Additionally, the Rohne coking coal mine, with a peak capacity of ~8 MTPA, is expected to be commissioned by Q3FY27. These initiatives are expected to diversify revenue streams and enhance long-term earnings resilience.

Rating and Target Price:

- NMDC remains well-positioned for a long-term growth trajectory, supported by its ambitious 100 MT of iron ore production by FY30. However, near-term headwinds, including range-bound iron ore prices and elevated capex spends could weigh on earnings in near term. On that note, we maintain a **HOLD** rating on NMDC, valuing it at **₹90** i.e. 6x EV/EBITDA on FY28E.

Key Financial Summary

Key Financials (₹ crore)	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26P	4-year CAGR (FY23-26)	FY27E	FY28E	2-year CAGR (FY26-28E)
Net Sales	17,667	21,308	23,906	32,071	15.8%	30,752	34,442	3.6%
EBITDA	6,053	7,293	8,149	9,260	1.0%	10,868	12,379	15.6%
EBITDA Margins (%)	34.3	34.2	34.1	28.9		35.3	35.9	
Net Profit	5,601	5,575	6,541	7,450	3.5%	8,760	9,760	14.5%
EPS (₹)	6.4	6.3	7.4	8.5		10.0	11.1	
P/E	4.3	12.9	11.0	9.7		8.5	7.7	
RoNW (%)	28.0	20.9	22.0	21.9		22.3	21.6	

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research



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NMDC Limited

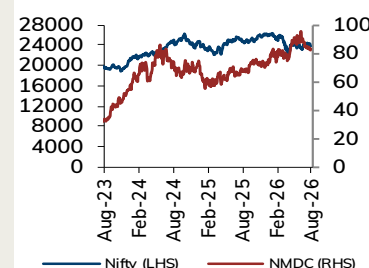
Particulars

Particulars	₹ crore
Market capitalisation	74,730
Total Debt (FY26P)	5,874
Cash & Investment (FY26P)	11,387
EV (₹ crore)	69,217
52-week H/L (₹)	98 / 68
Equity capital (₹ crore)	879
Face value (₹)	1.0

Shareholding pattern

	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	June-26
Promoters	60.8	60.8	60.8	60.8
FII	13.0	13.5	13.6	13.6
DII	14.4	14.1	13.8	13.8
Others	11.8	11.7	11.8	11.8

Price Chart



Key risks

- Government passed the MMDR Amendment Bill 2026, restricting state governments from imposing new taxes, providing relief from uncertainty surrounding potential additional taxation on NMDC's Karnataka mines
- Key Risk:** i) Delay in ramp up of iron ore mines will impact medium term volume growth target (ii) higher than expected rise in EBITDA/ton beating our estimates.

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Key Tables and Charts

Exhibit 1: Quarterly Analysis

	Q1FY27	Q1FY26	YoY (%)	Q4FY26	QoQ (%)
Total Operating income	6,795	6,739	0.8	11,343	-40.1
Raw Material Cost	-630	271	NA	3,718	NA
Employee Expenses	488	412	18.5	680	-28.3
Royalty Expenses	3,495	2,680	30.4	3,235	8.0
Other Operating Expenses	974	897	8.5	1,067	-8.7
Total Expenses	4,327	4,260	1.6	8,700	-50.3
EBITDA	2,468	2,478	-0.4	2,644	-6.6
EBITDA Margins	36.3%	36.8%	-45 bps	23.3%	1302 bps
Other Income	347	300	15.7	433	-19.7
Depreciation	103	109	-5.0	152	-31.9
Interest	22	27	-20.4	51	-58.0
Tax	685	675	1.5	855	-19.9
PAT	1,976	1,968	0.4	2,028	-2.5
Key Metrics					
Sales Volume (million tonne)	11.7	11.5	1.8	15.3	-23.2
Blended Realisations (₹/tonne)	5,548	5,353	3.6	4,759	16.6
EBITDA/tonne	2,104	2,152	-2.2	1,731	21.6

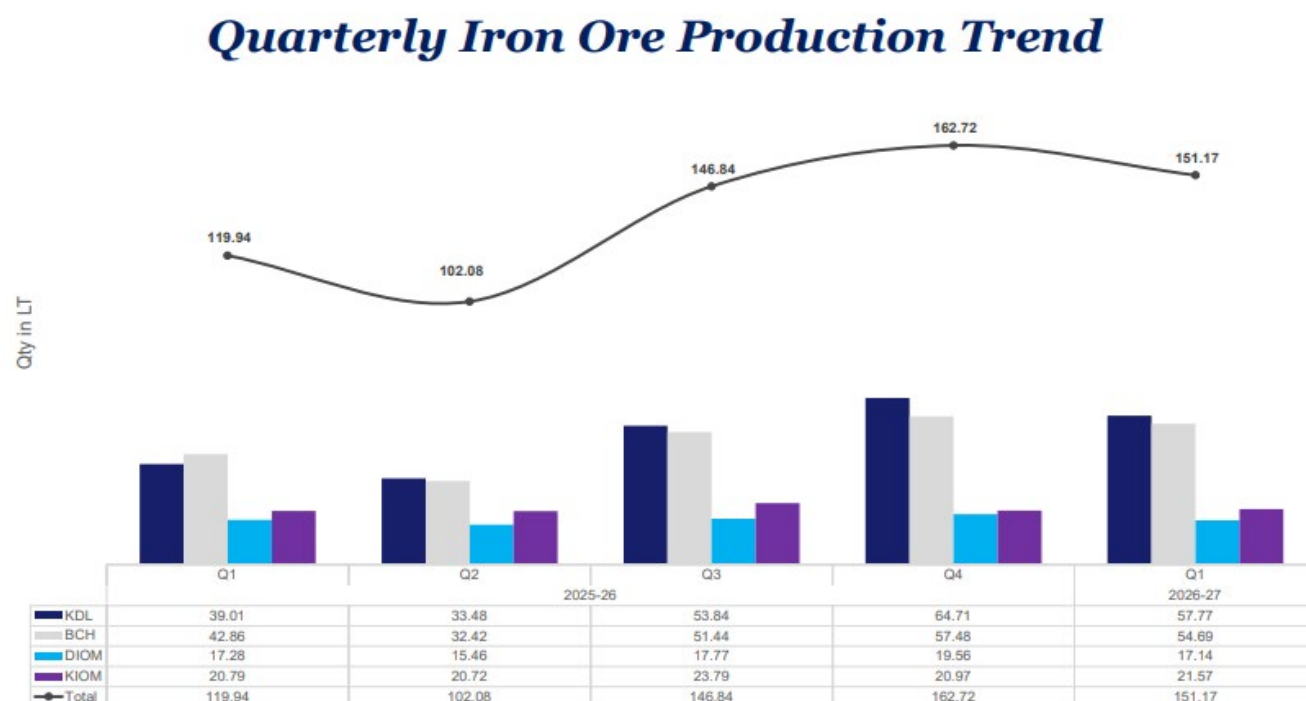
Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 2: Change in headline estimates

	FY27E			FY28E		
(₹ Crore)	Old	New	% Change	Old	New	% Change
Sales Volume (MT)	55.0	53.5	-2.8	60.0	57.2	-4.6
Blended Realization (₹/tonne)	5,442	5,494	1.0	5,590	5,560	-0.5
Total Op.Income	35,250	30,752	-12.8	40,418	34,442	-14.8
EBITDA	11,138	10,868	-2.4	12,741	12,379	-2.8
Margins (%)	31.6	35.3	374 bps	31.5	35.9	442 bps
EBITDA (₹/tonne)	2,025	2,033	0.4	2,124	2,164	1.9
PAT	8,919	8,760	-1.8	9,911	9,760	-1.5
EPS (₹)	10.1	10.0	-1.8	11.3	11.1	-1.5

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 3: Quarterly Iron Ore Production Trends



Source: ICICI Direct Research

Financial summary

Exhibit 4: Profit and loss statement

₹ crore

(Year-end March)	FY25	FY26P	FY27E	FY28E
Total Income	23,906	32,071	30,752	34,442
Growth (%)	12	34	(4)	12
Raw Material Cost	1,281	6,350	1,047	1,722
Employee Expenses	1,795	1,940	2,025	2,273
Other Expense	12,681	14,521	16,813	18,068
Total Expenditure	15,757	22,811	19,884	22,063
EBITDA	8,149	9,260	10,868	12,379
Growth (%)	11.7	13.6	17.4	13.9
Depreciation	420	477	459	509
Interest	178	121	115	143
Other Income	1,593	1,488	1,455	1,338
PBT	9,144	10,149	11,748	13,064
Profit from JV & MI	0	0	0	0
Total Tax	2,604	2,734	3,004	3,344
PAT	6,541	7,450	8,760	9,760
Growth (%)	17.3	13.9	17.6	11.4
EPS (₹)	7.4	8.5	10.0	11.1

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 5: Cash flow statement

₹ crore

(Year-end March)	FY25	FY26P	FY27E	FY28E
Profit after Tax	6,541	7,450	8,760	9,760
Add: Depreciation	420	477	459	509
(Inc)/dec in Current Assets	-1,593	-1,488	-1,455	-1,338
Inc/(dec) in CL and Provisions	-4,418	-2,471	1,004	-1,519
Others, Sub-Other Income	897	816	-107	970
CF from operating activities	178	121	115	143
(Inc)/dec in Investments	2,026	4,906	8,777	8,526
(Inc)/dec in Fixed Assets	-22	-394	0	0
Others, Add- Other income	-3,585	-3,306	-6,000	-8,000
CF from investing activities	1,571	1,193	1,439	1,323
Issue/(Buy back) of Equity	-2,036	-2,506	-4,561	-6,677
Inc/(dec) in loan funds	586	0	0	0
Dividend & interest outgo	414	2,104	-100	-100
Inc/(dec) in Share Cap	-2,639	-3,198	-3,632	-4,099
Others	-626	-7	0	0
CF from financing activities	-2,265	-1,101	-3,732	-4,199
Net Cash flow	-2,275	1,299	484	-2,351
Opening Cash	12,364	10,089	11,387	11,872
Closing Cash	10,089	11,387	11,872	9,520

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 6: Balance sheet

₹ crore

(Year-end March)	FY25	FY26P	FY27E	FY28E
Liabilities				
Equity Capital	879	879	879	879
Reserve and Surplus	28,817	33,183	38,427	44,231
Total Shareholders' funds	29,696	34,062	39,306	45,110
Total Debt	3,770	5,874	5,774	5,674
Deferred Tax Liability	0	0	0	0
Minority Interest / Others	164	190	200	210
Total Liabilities	33,630	40,127	45,280	50,994
Assets				
Gross Block	7,386	8,680	9,680	10,680
Less: Acc Depreciation	2,347	2,824	3,283	3,792
Net Block	5,038	5,856	6,397	6,888
Capital WIP	4,737	6,749	11,749	18,749
Total Fixed Assets	9,776	12,604	18,145	25,636
Investments	978	1,372	1,372	1,372
Inventory	2,638	2,522	2,528	2,831
Debtors	7,745	9,206	8,425	8,964
Loans and Advances	181	250	240	268
Other Current Assets	2,848	6,204	5,986	6,634
Cash	10,089	11,387	11,872	9,520
Total Current Assets	23,500	29,569	29,050	28,217
Current Liabilities	321	406	421	472
Provisions	1,863	2,540	2,634	2,950
Current Liabilities & Prov	7,377	8,193	8,087	9,057
Net Current Assets	16,123	21,376	20,963	19,160
Others Assets	6,753	4,775	4,800	4,825
Application of Funds	33,630	40,127	45,280	50,994

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 7: Key ratios

(Year-end March)	FY25	FY26P	FY27E	FY28E
Per share data (₹)				
EPS	7.4	8.5	10.0	11.1
Cash EPS	7.9	9.0	10.5	11.7
BV	33.8	38.7	44.7	51.3
DPS	2.8	3.5	4.0	4.5
Cash Per Share	11.5	13.0	13.5	10.8
Operating Ratios (%)				
EBITDA Margin	34.1	28.9	35.3	35.9
PAT Margin	27.4	23.2	28.5	28.3
Inventory days	40.3	28.7	30.0	30.0
Debtor days	118.2	104.8	100.0	95.0
Creditor days	4.9	4.6	5.0	5.0
Return Ratios (%)				
RoE	22.0	21.9	22.3	21.6
RoCE	23.0	21.9	23.0	23.3
RoIC	41.1	39.9	48.1	52.2
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	11.4	10.0	8.5	7.7
EV / EBITDA	8.4	7.5	6.3	5.7
EV / Net Sales	2.9	2.2	2.2	2.1
Market Cap / Sales	3.1	2.3	2.4	2.2
Price to Book Value	2.5	2.2	1.9	1.7
Solvency Ratios				
Debt/EBITDA	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5
Debt / Equity	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Current Ratio	5.8	5.9	5.4	5.3
Quick Ratio	4.6	5.1	4.6	4.4

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

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