

Asian Paints (APNT) - REDUCE

Q2FY26 Result Update

Current Market Price (CMP) Rs.2770	Fair Value (FV) Rs.2450
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Rationale:

- APNT delivered 6%/10.9% value/volume growth in domestic decorative paints.
- It was despite the extended monsoon, aided by a weak base (-6.5%/-0.5%) and better market share defense.
- EBITDA grew 21% yoy (2-yr CAGR: -6.4%).
- We expect APNT to deliver steady 5-7% revenue growth and stable EBITDA margins (18-19%).
- Growth will be supported by a moderation in Birla Opus' market share gains and elevated but steady competitive intensity.
- We raise FY2026-28E EPS by 0-3% and revise FV to Rs2,450 (43X December 2027E PE.
- We expect earnings to grow by 12.5% in FY27E & grow by 13.8% in FY28E.
- Stock is currently trading at valuation of 47.7x P/E FY28E EPS.

👍 Positives:

- Standalone revenues grew 5.6% yoy to Rs7360 cr (7% beat).
- Domestic decorative value/volume grew 6%/10.9% yoy (KIE: flat/4%).
- Growth was aided by a weak base and better market share defense.
- APNT outperformed BRGR after 10-12 quarters.
- The industrial segment delivered steady double-digit growth yoy.
- The international business grew ~10% yoy (+10.6% in c/c terms).

👎 Negatives:

- Margin recovery contingent on easing competition (looks unlikely in near term).



The content of this document has been derived from KIE research report. Kotak's PCG Research has summarized the report (Research Team: shrikant.chouhan@kotak.com). Readers who wish to access the complete report are kindly requested to contact their respective Relationship Manager. Further, the recipient of this material should take their own professional advice before investing.

Holding Period: 12 months

RATING SCALE (PRIVATE CLIENT GROUP)

Definitions of ratings

BUY	–	We expect the stock to deliver more than 15% returns over the next 12 months
ADD	–	We expect the stock to deliver 5% - 15% returns over the next 12 months
REDUCE	–	We expect the stock to deliver -5% - +5% returns over the next 12 months
SELL	–	We expect the stock to deliver < -5% returns over the next 12 months
NR	–	Not Rated. Kotak Securities is not assigning any rating or price target to the stock. The report has been prepared for information purposes only.
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NA	–	Not Available or Not Applicable. The information is not available for display or is not applicable
NM	–	Not Meaningful. The information is not meaningful and is therefore excluded.
NOTE	–	Our target prices are with a 12-month perspective. Returns stated in the rating scale are our internal benchmark.

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