

August 11, 2026

Healthy show; Novelis to spearhead growth...

About the stock: Hindalco (HIL), part of Aditya Birla group, is India's largest fully integrated aluminium, copper manufacturer. US based wholly owned subsidiary i.e. Novelis is world's largest aluminium flat-rolled products producer and recycler

- Consol. Sales (FY26): India Aluminium: 20%, Copper: 24%, Novelis: 56%.

Q1FY27 performance: Hindalco reported a healthy performance in Q1FY27. Consolidated topline stood at ₹84,825 crore (up ~32% YoY). Reported EBITDA stood at ₹13,972 crore (up 73% YoY) with corresponding EBITDA margins at 16.5%, up ~345 bps QoQ. Consolidated PAT stood at ₹7,031 crore (including exceptional loss of ~₹2,293 crores due to fire impact at Novelis's Oswego facility).

Investment Rationale:

- India- aggressive capacity expansion to capitalize industry tailwinds:** HIL is undertaking a two-phase expansion at the Aditya Aluminium smelter, adding ~374 KT of capacity through ~₹20,000 crore of capex, which will increase primary aluminium capacity from ~1.3 MT to 1.7 MT by FY29. It is also expanding copper smelting capacity by 300 KT by FY29 to capture robust domestic demand for aluminium and copper, which is expected to double by 2033, driven by infrastructure, packaging, EVs and renewable energy. Additionally, ~170 KT of downstream FRP capacity has been commissioned across battery foils, extrusions and enclosures, which is expected to enhance long term downstream EBITDA to ~US\$300/tonne. While these capacity additions are expected to drive meaningful volume growth from FY28 onwards, a higher VAP mix and firm metal prices should support Indian operations in the interim. Accordingly, we model standalone sales growth at ~9% CAGR over FY26-28E.
- Novelis- Commissioning of Bay Minette plant remains a key growth catalyst:** Hindalco's US-based subsidiary, Novelis, reported a steady 4% QoQ increase in Adjusted EBITDA to US\$563/tonne in Q1FY27, including a positive from Oswego fire insurance proceeds. Excluding this, adjusted EBITDA/tonne remained healthy at ~\$525/tonne. The improvement was supported by lower aluminium scrap prices and ongoing cost-efficiency initiatives, with ~US\$225 million of savings achieved through Q1FY27 (out of ~\$350-400 million savings to be realised by FY28E). Going ahead, the gradual recommissioning of the Oswego plant is expected to drive volume recovery from H2CY26 and support positive free cash flow generation by FY27-end. Further, commissioning of the 600 KT Bay Minette plant in FY28 is expected to drive the next leg of growth through higher volumes and improved margins. The company has retained its long-term EBITDA/tonne guidance of US\$600/tonne. Accordingly, Novelis' EBITDA/tonne is estimated at ~US\$572/600 in FY27E/FY28E, respectively.

Rating and Target Price:

- Novelis is expected to deliver healthy performance, supported by the recommissioning of Oswego plant and commissioning of Bay Minette facility. Meanwhile, Indian operations are expected to remain steady, aided by volume recovery in downstream operations, higher value-added product contribution and firm aluminium prices. Accordingly, we upgrade stock from **HOLD** to **BUY** rating and value it at **₹1,240** i.e. **7x EV/EBITDA FY28E**.

Key Financial Summary

Key Financials (₹ crore)	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	5-year CAGR (FY21-26)	FY27E	FY28E	2-year CAGR (FY26-28E)
Net Sales	2,23,202	2,15,962	2,38,496	2,74,944	15.8%	3,33,559	3,57,612	14.0%
EBITDA	22,885	24,257	32,824	35,202	14.8%	47,634	48,202	17.0%
EBITDA Margins (%)	10.3	11.2	13.8	12.8		14.3	13.5	
Net Profit	10,097	10,155	16,002	13,391	30.9%	28,988	25,722	38.6%
EPS (₹)	45.5	45.7	72.1	60.3		130.6	115.9	
P/E	23.3	23.2	14.7	17.6		8.1	9.1	
RoNW (%)	10.8	9.6	13.4	13.5		16.6	13.7	

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

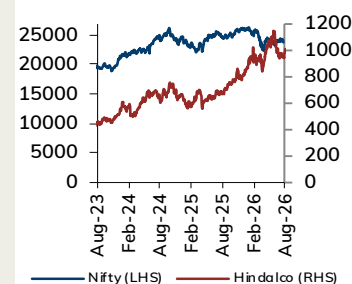
BUY

**Particulars**

Particulars	₹ crore
Market capitalisation	2,35,320
Total Debt (FY26)	96,659
Cash & Investment (FY26)	22,692
EV (₹ crore)	3,09,287
52-week H/L (₹)	1179 / 657
Equity capital (₹ crore)	222
Face value (₹)	1

Shareholding pattern

	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	June-26
Promoters	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7
FII	28.1	28.2	30.0	31.4
DII	24.1	23.2	21.4	19.8
Others	13.1	14.0	14.0	14.1

Price Chart**Key risks**

- Reported healthy Q1FY27 results. Novelis' Oswego plant was restarted in June'26, with the aim of positive free cashflow by the end of FY27.
- Key Risk:** i) sharper decline in aluminium prices impacting performance in India (ii) delays in commissioning Bay Minette plant impacting our growth estimates

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Key Takeaways of Recent Quarter

Q1FY27 Results: Reported a Healthy Performance

- Total consolidated operating income for the quarter came in at ₹84,825 crore (up 32% YoY) with Novelis sales volume down ~5% YoY at 916 kt. India aluminium downstream volumes were at 104 kt (up 3% YoY), upstream volumes reported an increase of 3% YoY at 335 kt. India copper segment volumes were down by 15% YoY at 105 kt.
- Reported consolidated EBITDA for the quarter stood at ₹13,972 crore (up ~73% YoY) with corresponding EBITDA margins at 16.5%, up ~345 bps QoQ. Adjusted EBITDA for Novelis was at \$563/tonne (up ~4% QoQ), while aluminium upstream and downstream were at \$2,331/tonne (up ~33% QoQ) and \$303/tonne (up ~34% QoQ). While EBITDA for copper was at \$926/tonne (up ~20% QoQ).
- Consolidated PAT for the quarter stood at ₹7,031 crore (including exceptional loss of ~₹2,293 crores due to fire impact at Novelis's Oswego facility). Moreover, consolidated Net Debt stood at ₹77,495 crore, with Net Debt to EBITDA at 1.95x (vs 1.83x end of March'26).

Q1FY27 Earnings Conference Call Highlights

Indian Operation:

- **Aluminium:** HIL reported a ~4% QoQ increase in cost of production in Q1FY27. For Q2FY27, costs are expected to rise by ~5-6% QoQ due to higher coal prices during the monsoon season. In the downstream aluminium segment, EBITDA/tonne of ~US\$250 is expected to remain sustainable in FY28, supported by the ramp-up of the Aditya FRP plant.
- **Copper:** Q1FY27 EBITDA performance was supported by higher by-product sales, aided by elevated sulphuric acid prices. Copper volumes declined due to maintenance shutdowns and weak industry demand. HIL highlighted that the global copper concentrate market remains tight amid supply disruptions at key mines, with spot TCRC currently negative at 26-27 cents/lb. Copper EBITDA is expected to remain broadly similar in Q2FY27, supported by elevated sulphuric acid prices, while TC/RCs are likely to remain under pressure through the remainder of FY27.
- **Coal:** Chakala coal mine is expected to commence first coal production in FY27, with a higher contribution from FY28 onwards. Meanwhile, Meenakshi coal mine has completed box-cut activities and is progressing through Stage-1 approvals. HIL expects ~1.5 MT of captive coal production in FY28, comprising ~1 MT from Chakala and ~0.5 MT from Banda.
- **Hedging:** For FY27, HIL has hedged ~29% of its aluminium exposure at US\$3,004/tonne, while ~18% of its currency exposure is hedged at ₹91.63 per US\$. For FY28, it has hedged ~21% of aluminium at ~US\$3,160/tonne and aims to increase the hedged price to ~US\$3,200/tonne.

Novelis (International Operation):

- **Oswego facility:** The Oswego facility was restarted in June'26 and is currently in the ramp-up phase. Production is expected to gradually scale up over the next two quarters, with full utilisation targeted by Q4FY27. It has already received ~\$300 million in insurance recoveries, including ~\$47 million recognised in Q1'27.
- **Bay Minette:** FY27 capex guidance remains unchanged at ~\$2.1-2.4 billion, including ~\$350mn of maintenance capex. Majority is allocated towards the 600kt Bay Minette expansion, which is scheduled for commissioning in Nov'26, with commercial shipments expected from Q1'28. Full ramp-up is expected over 18-24 months, while annual startup costs during the commissioning phase are estimated at ~\$150 million.
- **Others:** Net leverage increased to 4.5x, primarily due to the Oswego fire incident and Bay Minette capex. However, it expects leverage to decline below 4x and achieve a positive free cash flow position by FY27-end. It has already delivered US\$225mn in cost savings through Q1FY27 and remains on track to achieve total savings of \$350-400 million by FY28-end.

Key Tables and Charts

Exhibit 1: Quarterly Analysis

	Q1FY27	Q1FY26	YoY (%)	Q4FY26	QoQ (%)
Total Operating Income	84,825	64,232	32.1	78,133	8.6
Raw Material Expenses	53,717	41,569	29.2	50,322	6.7
Employee Expenses	4,725	4,253	11.1	4,425	6.8
Power & Fuel expenses	3,649	3,465	5.3	3,426	6.5
Other expenses	8,762	6,870	27.5	9,784	-10.4
EBITDA	13,972	8,075	73.0	10,176	37.3
EBITDA Margin (%)	16.5%	12.6%	390 bps	13.0%	345 bps
Other Income	1,057	602	75.6	1,025	3.1
Depreciation	2,377	2,249	5.7	2,533	-6.2
Interest	966	754	28.1	1,042	-7.3
Exceptional Item	-2,293	2	NA	-4,175	NA
Tax	2,380	1,672	42.3	854	178.7
PAT	7,013	4,004	75.1	2,597	170.0
Key Metrics					
Novelis- US operations					
Sales Volume (KT)	916	963	-4.9	844	8.5
EBITDA (\$/tonne)	563	432	30.4	544	3.6
India Aluminium Upstream					
Sales Volume (KT)	335	325	3.1	339	-1.2
EBITDA (\$/tonne)	2,331	1,467	58.9	1,756	32.7
India Aluminium Downstream					
Sales Volume (KT)	104	101	3.0	124	-16.1
EBITDA (\$/tonne)	303	264	14.8	226	34.1
India Copper					
Sales Volume (KT)	105	124	-15.3	128	-18.0
EBITDA (\$/tonne)	926	634	46.0	775	19.5

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 2: Key Assumptions

	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27E	FY28E
India Aluminium Upstream						
Sales Volume (KT)	1,319	1,345	1,327	1,350	1,340	1,355
Blended Realisation (\$/tonne)	3,113	2,908	3,401	3,471	3,831	3,700
EBITDA (\$/tonne)	792	823	1,449	1,583	1,902	1,750
India Aluminium Downstream						
Sales Volume (KT)	354	370	403	446	471	544
Blended Realisation (\$/tonne)	3,868	3,447	3,749	4,026	4,466	4,300
EBITDA (\$/tonne)	221	178	186	248	262	275
Novelis- US operations						
Sales Volume (KT)	3,790	3,673	3,757	3,557	3,775	4,208
Blended Realisation (\$/tonne)	4,881	4,416	4,564	5,196	5,781	5,600
EBITDA (\$/tonne)	478	510	480	462	572	600
India Copper						
Sales Volume (KT)	439	506	491	487	488	500
Blended Realisation (\$/tonne)	11,815	11,773	13,152	16,132	17,083	17,500
EBITDA (\$/tonne)	638	624	727	650	757	600

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 3: Change in Estimates

Change in estimates (₹ crore)	FY27E			FY28E		
	Old	New	% Change	Old	New	% Change
Total Op. Income	3,34,747	3,33,559	-0.4	3,51,780	3,57,612	1.7
EBITDA	43,613	47,634	9.2	45,420	48,202	6.1
Margins (%)	13.0	14.3	125 bps	12.9	13.5	57 bps
PAT	22,557	28,988	28.5	2,334	25,722	10.2
EPS (₹)	101.6	130.6	28.5	105.1	115.9	10.2

Source: ICICI Direct Research

Financial summary

Exhibit 4: Profit and loss statement

₹ crore

(Year-end March)	FY25	FY26	FY27E	FY28E
Total Operating Income	2,38,496	2,74,944	3,33,559	3,57,612
Growth (%)	10.4	15.3	21.3	7.2
Raw Material Expenses	1,44,949	1,77,038	2,17,636	2,36,024
Employee Expenses	15,406	17,148	19,527	21,457
Other Expense	45,317	45,556	48,762	51,929
Total Expenditure	2,05,672	2,39,742	2,85,925	3,09,409
EBITDA	32,824	35,202	47,634	48,202
Growth (%)	35.3	7.2	35.3	1.2
Depreciation	8,900	9,148	11,007	12,159
Interest	3,419	3,480	4,530	4,305
Other Income	2,708	2,889	2,931	2,787
PBT	23,213	25,463	35,027	34,526
Exceptional Item	876	6,967	-2,293	0
Total Tax	6,335	5,105	8,332	8,804
PAT	16,002	13,391	28,988	25,722
Growth (%)	57.6	-16.3	116.5	-11.3
EPS (₹)	72.1	60.3	130.6	115.9

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 5: Cash flow statement

₹ crore

(Year-end March)	FY25	FY26	FY27E	FY28E
Profit after Tax	16,002	13,391	28,988	25,722
Add: Depreciation	8,900	9,148	11,007	12,159
(Inc)/dec in Current Assets	-14,197	-37,757	-14,786	-2,741
Inc/(dec) in CL and Provisions	7,628	35,784	-2,750	1,550
Others	3,419	3,480	4,530	4,305
CF from operating activities	21,752	24,046	26,989	40,994
(Inc)/dec in Investments	-8,714	-800	750	-1,250
(Inc)/dec in Fixed Assets	-25,568	-42,102	-28,951	-15,000
Others	5,117	-7,913	0	0
CF from investing activities	-29,165	-50,815	-28,201	-16,250
Issue/(Buy back) of Equity	0	0	0	0
Inc/(dec) in loan funds	7,430	34,728	8,000	-18,000
Dividend & interest outgo	-4,197	-4,590	-6,084	-6,081
Inc/(dec) in Share Cap	0	0	0	0
Others	2,339	593	0	0
CF from financing activities	5,572	30,731	1,916	-24,081
Net Cash flow	-1,841	3,962	705	664
Opening Cash	12,687	10,846	14,808	15,513
Closing Cash	10,846	14,808	15,513	16,176

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 6: Balance sheet

₹ crore

(Year-end March)	FY25	FY26	FY27E	FY28E
Liabilities				
Equity Capital	222	222	222	222
Reserve and Surplus	1,23,487	1,36,361	1,63,795	1,87,741
Total Shareholders funds	1,23,709	1,36,583	1,64,017	1,87,963
Total Debt	61,931	96,659	1,04,659	86,659
Deferred Tax Liability	10,471	7,679	7,679	7,679
Minority Interest / Others	9,389	10,599	10,699	10,799
Total Liabilities	2,05,500	2,51,520	2,87,054	2,93,100
Assets				
Gross Block	1,76,081	1,99,502	2,52,979	2,77,979
Less: Acc Depreciation	86,208	98,804	1,09,811	1,21,970
Net Block	89,873	1,00,698	1,43,168	1,56,009
Capital WIP	27,397	49,526	25,000	15,000
Total Fixed Assets	1,17,270	1,50,224	1,68,168	1,71,009
Investments	50,841	54,511	53,761	55,011
Inventory	48,801	75,517	86,817	88,178
Debtors	19,834	27,222	29,243	29,393
Loans and Advances	7	8	10	10
Other Current Assets	11,939	15,591	17,054	18,284
Cash	10,846	14,808	15,513	16,176
Total Current Assets	91,427	1,33,146	1,48,637	1,52,042
Current Liabilities	40,632	61,624	68,539	68,583
Provisions	2,681	3,711	4,127	4,130
Current Liabilities & Prov	60,491	96,275	93,525	95,075
Net Current Assets	30,936	36,871	55,112	56,966
Others Assets	6,453	9,914	10,014	10,114
Application of Funds	2,05,500	2,51,520	2,87,054	2,93,100

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 7: Key ratios

(Year-end March)	FY25	FY26	FY27E	FY28E
Per share data (₹)				
EPS	72.1	60.3	130.6	115.9
Cash EPS	112.2	101.5	180.2	170.6
BV	557.2	615.2	738.8	846.7
DPS	5.0	5.0	7.0	8.0
Cash Per Share	48.9	66.7	69.9	72.9
Operating Ratios (%)				
EBITDA Margin	13.8	12.8	14.3	13.5
PAT Margin	6.7	4.9	8.7	7.2
Inventory days	74.7	100.3	95.0	90.0
Debtor days	30.4	36.1	32.0	30.0
Creditor days	62.2	81.8	75.0	70.0
Return Ratios (%)				
RoE	13.4	13.5	16.6	13.7
RoCE	11.6	10.4	12.8	12.3
RoIC	15.3	14.5	15.3	14.2
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	14.2	17.0	8.1	9.1
EV / EBITDA	8.2	8.6	6.7	6.2
EV / Net Sales	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8
Market Cap / Sales	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.7
Price to Book Value	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.3
Solvency Ratios				
Debt/EBITDA	1.9	2.7	2.2	1.8
Debt / Equity	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.5
Current Ratio	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9
Quick Ratio	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

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