WAY2WEALTH

Sector - Travel Support Services

Research Desk 🗢

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd.(IRCTC

14th February 2025

LTP*: ₹745.50/-

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Q3FY25 Result Highlights

- Q3FY25 Result IRCTC Q3FY25 Revenue grew 9.8% YoY and 15.1% QoO to ₹12,247mn led by catering and tourism segment. EBITDA grew by 5.7% YoY and 11.7% QoQ to ₹4,166mn. However, EBITDA margins contracted by 130 bps YoY and 102 bps QoQ to 34.0%. Adjusted PAT grew by 8.5% YoY and 10.8% QoQ to ₹3,411mn.
- Catering business (45.3% of Rev v/s 45.3% in Q2) remained flat; grew by 15% QoQ led by strong demand and seasonally strong quarter. Margins de-grew by 328 bps YoY and 60.3 bps QoQ impacted by closedown of base kitchen on departmental basis due to new catering policy. Ticketing business (29% of Rev v/s 35% in Q2) was down 5% QoQ and grew by 5% YoY, OPM remained flat QoQ and grew by 8% YoY to 84.7% led by strong operating leverage. Rail Neer (7.9% of Rev) increased by 7% QoQ and 15% YoY led by increase in capital utilization. Also, OPM grew by 233 bps QoQ. A New plant in Vijayawada with a capacity of 72,000 bottles per day capacity has been commissioned during the quarter. Management is planning to open 3 new plants in FY26 with an additional capacity of 2 lakh bottles with total capacity of 18 lakh bottles. The **Tourism** segment (18% of Rev) grew by 80% QoQ and 16% YoY. Also, OPM grew by 465 bps YoY to 16.9% led by strong tailwinds in the sector.
- IRCTC appears committed to capturing a larger share of the entire travel experience. Catering remains a significant revenue contributor (47% of Rev in 9MFY25), with continued efforts to improve realization on license fees by creating a cluster structure in place to improve monetization across trains. Ticketing (31% of Rev in 9MFY25) continues to show steady incremental growth (up 11% YoY in 9MFY25). IRCTC sees substantial potential in its underserved segments like Rail Neer (9% of Rev in 9MFY25) and Tourism (14% of Rev in 9MFY25); areas that are expected to drive long-term growth. The company intends to leverage the Indian Source: Company, Way2Wealth railway's expanding infrastructure and align with rising consumer demand across multiple travel-related services. It is also constantly creating its non-travel-related revenue streams (ex-Payment Gateway biz would be targeted beyond the Railway ecosystem)

Q3FY25 Con-call KTAs: \triangleright

- **Operating Performance:** Strong revenue growth sequentially mainly 0 led by an uptick in tourism (80%/14% QoQ/YoY) and catering (15%/9% QoQ/YoY) revenue, While, saw a dip in internet ticketing segment by 5% sequentially. On the margins front, the overall EBIT margin dipped by 90bps sequentially due to decline in catering margins despite good growth in segmental revenue. However, Internet ticketing margins improved by 370 bps QoQ at 84% due to the increase in non-convenience fee and despite at reaching saturation level (in terms of market share 87%).
- Catering: The segment's revenue grew by 15% QoQ and 9% YoY, reaching ₹5,548mn, while the EBIT margin stood at 12.2%, a decline of 60 basis points QoQ. The decrease in margins was primarily due to the closure of base kitchens on a departmental basis under the new catering policy. However, margins are expected to improve as the company focuses on expanding its kitchen infrastructure, which will drive higher margins and market share. The management anticipates strong growth in the upcoming quarters, driven by an extended partnership with food aggregators such as Zomato and Swiggy. The company has seen a significant increase in meal volume, with daily

| Nifty | 23,031 |
|-----------------|----------|
| Sensex | 76,139 |
| LTP* (₹) | 745.50 |
| MCAP (₹ bn) | 596.15 |
| 52 Week H/L (₹) | 1139/664 |
| NSE Code | IRCTC |
| BSE Code | 542830 |
| Bloomberg Code | IRCTC:IN |

Important Statistics

LTP* as on 13th Feb 2025

| Shareholding Pattern (%) | Dec'24 |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Promoter | 62.40 |
| DII | 13.73 |
| FII | 07.45 |
| Public & Others | 16.42 |

| Financials | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| (₹ mn) | | | | | | | | |
| Particulars | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | | | | |
| Revenue | 7,767 | 18,795 | 35,415 | 42,602 | | | | |
| EBITDA | 1,878 | 8,735 | 12,762 | 14,660 | | | | |
| EBITDA Margin (%) | 24.2 | 46.5 | 36.0 | 34.4 | | | | |
| Net Profit | 1,870 | 6,596 | 10,059 | 11,111 | | | | |
| EPS (₹) | 2.3 | 8.2 | 12.6 | 13.9 | | | | |
| DPS (₹) | 5.0 | 3.5 | 5.5 | 6.5 | | | | |
| P/E (x) | 750.8 | 94.2 | 45.5 | 66.9 | | | | |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 145.8 | 72.0 | 59.6 | 48.9 | | | | |
| RoE (%) | 10.8 | 39.9 | 40.6 | 34.4 | | | | |
| RoCE (%) | 8.7 | 39.5 | 45.3 | 40.7 | | | | |

Relative Performance

| 1Yr | 3Yr | 5Yr |
|-------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| -18.0 | -10.6 | 144.4 |
| 5.9 | 24.5 | 90.1 |
| 6.4 | 26.6 | 84.5 |
| | -18.0 5.9 | -18.0 -10.6 5.9 24.5 |

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Light House Update

Way2Wealth Brokers Pvt. Ltd. (CIN U67120KA2000PTC027628) SEBI Rgn. No. : INH200008705.

Registered Office: Rukmini Towers, 3rd & 4th Floor, # 3/1, Platform Road, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore - 560 020,

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meal deliveries growing from 2,000 to over 100,000 meals per day. Additionally, E-catering revenue has grown to ₹150mn, compared to ₹90mn YoY.

- Internet Ticketing: Revenue decreased 5% QoQ to ₹3,537mn as the segment hit market share saturation, with most bookings occurring in Q2 (e.g., Diwali, Chhat Puja, vacations). Margins improved by 370bps sequentially to 84%, supported by strong market positioning and operational efficiency.
- Management's focus on increasing non-fare revenue contributed to the growth this quarter. A total of 12.51 crore tickets were booked, with convenience fees rising to ₹2540mn (vs. ₹2,390mn YoY), and nonconvenience fees at ₹1000mn (vs. ₹960mn YoY). Convenience fees apply only to ticket bookings, not cancellations.
- Tourism: This segment saw 80% QoQ and 14% YoY growth, driven by luxury services like Maharaja Express, Golden Chariot, Vande Bharat, and Tejas Express. EBIT margin improved to ~17%, turning positive sequentially, with revenue rising from ₹650mn to over ₹950mn. Strong interest in Bharat Gaurav trains and Golden Chariot is expected to support further growth. Strong interest in Bharat Gaurav trains and Golden Chariot is expected to support further growth.
- Rail Neer: Revenue stood at ₹964mn which grew by 11% QoQ and margin at 12.3%, an improvement of 190bps sequentially led by efforts made to enhance profitability by expanding capital utilization and adding new new production capabilities. A New plant with 72000 bottle per day capacity is already commissioned in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh by Oct 24. The company is planning to open 3 new plants in FY26 with an additional capacity of 2lakh bottles with total capacity at 18lakh bottles.

View

IRCTC offers an exclusivity play across a wide variety of activities (Ticketing, Catering, Rail Neer, Rail-based-Tourism) in the Indian Railway ecosystem. We believe the unique strength is that this monopoly is going to last, as this would ensure better quality at reasonable prices to the consumers. The management is looking to leverage IR's expanding infra and economic opportunities to capitalise on entire travel journey. With incremental growth expected in ticketing, the management views significant potential in its under-developed segments tourism products for Flights Buses and Hotel which are more of value-add to the margins. Accordingly, opportunities arising out of catering, potential contract expansions, Vande Bharat – Bharat Gaurav trains, e-Catering and station upgrades augers well for the company. **Since our report on** *21Jan21* **the stock has given returns of close to +300% with a 52-week High of ₹1148.9 on 22May24, Given the recent correction in the stock price, we recommend to BUY the stock for the long term view.**

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| | | | | | | | | (₹ mn) |
|--|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Particulars | Q3FY25 | Q2FY25 | QoQ | Q3FY24 | YoY | 9MFY25 | 9MFY24 | YoY |
| Net Sales | 12247 | 10640 | 15.1% | 11155 | 9.8% | 34062 | 31085 | 9.6% |
| Expense: | | | | | | | | |
| Cost of Materials Consumed | 162 | 165 | -1.6% | 181 | -10.6% | 500.359 | 552.517 | -9.4% |
| Purchase of Stock-in-Trade | 526 | 458 | 14.7% | 504 | 4.2% | 1700 | 1392 | 22.1% |
| Changes in Inventories of finished goods | -13 | -7 | 83.3% | 6 | -332.5% | -13 | -7 | 103.0% |
| Expenses of Catering Services | 4111 | 3465 | 18.7% | 3487 | 17.9% | 11518 | 9730 | 18.4% |
| Expenses of Tourism | 1605 | 1050 | 52.8% | 1464 | 9.7% | 3606 | 3931 | -8.3% |
| Manufacturing & Direct Expenses | 470 | 472 | -0.3% | 436 | 7.9% | 1409 | 1220 | 15.5% |
| Employee benefit expense | 742 | 769 | -3.5% | 752 | -1.3% | 2255 | 2053 | 9.9% |
| Other Expenses | 478 | 541 | -11.6% | 385 | 24.1% | 1445 | 1179 | 22.5% |
| Total Expense | 8081 | 6912 | 16.9% | 7215 | 12.0% | 22419 | 20050 | 11.8% |
| EBITDA | 4166 | 3728 | 11.7% | 3940 | 5.7% | 11643 | 11035 | 5.5% |
| EBITDA Margin | 34.0% | 35.0% | -102bps | 35.3% | -130bps | 34.2% | 35.5% | -132bps |
| Other Income | 565 | 600 | -5.7% | 456 | 24.1% | 1679 | 1318 | 27.4% |
| Operating Income | 4731 | 4328 | 9.3% | 4395 | 7.6% | 13322 | 12354 | 7.8% |
| Depreciation | 133 | 131 | 1.8% | 139 | -4.0% | 403 | 416 | -3.0% |
| Interest | 32 | 31 | 4.4% | 48 | -32.3% | 91 | 133 | -31.4% |
| PBT | 4566 | 4166 | 9.6% | 4209 | 8.5% | 12828 | 11805 | 8.7% |
| Tax Expense | 1155 | 1087 | 6.2% | 1064 | 8.6% | 3283 | 2871.57 | 14.3% |
| Adjusted PAT | 3411 | 3079 | 10.8% | 3145 | 8.5% | 9545 | 8933 | 6.8% |
| Exception Items | 0 | 0 | NA | -145 | -100.0% | 22 | -664.16 | -103.3% |
| РАТ | 3411 | 3079 | 10.8% | 3000 | 13.7% | 9567 | 8269 | 15.7% |
| EPS | 4.3 | 3.8 | 10.8% | 3.7 | 13.7% | 12.0 | 10.3 | 15.7% |

Source: Company, Way2Wealth

SEGMENTAL REVENUE BREAK UP

| | | | | | | | | (₹ mn) |
|--------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|----------|--------|--------|----------|
| Revenue | Q3FY25 | Q2FY25 | QoQ | Q3FY24 | YoY | 9MFY25 | 9MFY24 | YoY |
| Catering | 5548 | 4820 | 15% | 5078 | 9% | 15957 | 14164 | 13% |
| % of total Revenue | 45.3% | 45.3% | 0.6bps | 46% | -21.6bps | 47% | 46% | 128.1bps |
| Internet Ticketing | 3537 | 3710 | -5% | 3353 | 5% | 10538 | 9529 | 11% |
| % of total Revenue | 29% | 35% | -598bps | 30% | -118bps | 31% | 31% | 28bps |
| Tourism | 2237 | 1244 | 80% | 1927 | 16% | 4705 | 4924 | -4% |
| % of total Revenue | 18% | 12% | 657bps | 17% | 100bps | 14% | 16% | -203bps |
| Rail Neer | 964 | 902 | 7% | 838 | 15% | 2980 | 2577 | 16% |
| % of total Revenue | 8% | 8% | -61bps | 8% | 36bps | 9% | 8% | 46bps |

Source: Company, Way2Wealth

SEGMENTAL EBIT BREAK UP

| | | | | | | | | <i>(₹ mn)</i> |
|--------------------|--------|--------|----------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------------|
| Particulars | Q3FY25 | Q2FY25 | QoQ | Q3FY24 | YoY | 9MFY25 | 9MFY24 | YoY |
| Catering | 675 | 615 | 10% | 784 | -14% | 2069 | 2223 | -7% |
| Margin | 12.2% | 12.8% | -60.3bps | 15.4% | -328bps | 13.0% | 15.7% | -273bps |
| Internet Ticketing | 2995 | 3005 | 0% | 2784 | 8% | 8724 | 7925 | 10% |
| Margin | 84.7% | 81.0% | 366bps | 83.0% | 166bps | 82.8% | 83.2% | -38bps |
| Tourism | 379 | -30 | -1346% | 237 | 60% | 442 | -87 | -608% |
| Margin | 16.9% | -2.4% | 1936bps | 12.3% | 465bps | 9.4% | -1.8% | 1115bps |
| Rail Neer | 118 | 90 | 32% | -33 | -463% | 344 | 186 | 85% |
| Margin | 12.3% | 9.9% | 233bps | -3.9% | 1617bps | 11.5% | 7.2% | 433bps |

Source: Company, Way2Wealth

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Disclosure of Interest Statement Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) as on 14 February 2025

| Name of the Security | Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC) |
|---|---|
| Name of the analyst | Ashwini Sonawane |
| Analysts' ownership of any stock related to the information contained Financial Interest Analyst : Analyst's Relative : Yes / No Analyst's Associate/Firm : Yes/No | No No No |
| Conflict of Interest | No |
| Receipt of Compensation | No |
| Way2Wealth ownership of any stock related to the information contained | NIL |
| Broking relationship with company covered | NIL |
| Investment Banking relationship with company covered | NIL |

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