

# **Marico**

 BSE SENSEX
 S&P CNX

 35,963
 10,805

CMP: INR373 TP: INR465 (+25%)

Buy



### Stock Info

Bloomberg	MRCO IN
Equity Shares (m)	1,290
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	481.3 / 6.7
52-Week Range (INR)	388 / 284
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	8/9/13
12M Avg Val (INR M)	572
Free float (%)	40.3

### Financials Snapshot (INR b)

Y/E March	2018	<b>2019E</b>	2020E
Sales	63.2	73.5	84.0
EBITDA	11.4	13.1	15.5
Adj. PAT	8.3	9.6	11.3
Adj. EPS (INR)	6.4	7.4	8.8
EPS Gr. (%)	2.0	15.5	18.8
BV/Sh.(INR)	19.7	22.6	24.6
RoE (%)	34.0	35.0	37.3
RoCE (%)	30.8	31.5	33.4
P/E (x)	58.2	50.4	42.4
P/BV (x)	18.9	16.5	15.2

### Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Sep-18	Jun-18	Sep-17
Promoter	59.7	59.7	59.7
FII	7.4	7.7	5.6
DII	25.3	25.7	28.0
Others	7.7	6.9	6.6

FII Includes depository receipts

### Stock Performance (1-year)



# New products traction picking up...

...promising to boost medium-term earnings growth prospects

Over the past few years, one of the disappointments investors harbored for Marico was regarding the subdued performance of its new launches. Except for Saffola Masala oats (launched over six years ago) none of the new launches have contributed significantly to the sales growth. However, over the past 18 months, Marico has pulled up its socks and now has a strong product pipeline with a few initial successes. We recently met Marico's management to understand reasons for the new improved pipeline and to gauge the company's growth targets, going forward.

### Our view on Marico's current position and the role of new products

- Parachute- Growth in both 1QFY19 and 2QFY19 (despite a challenging base) was extremely encouraging. We believe it is possible for Marico to grow higher than its historical average in a segment that is still important for Marico.
- There has been an evident step-up in the pace of new launches over the past 18 months. There have been a couple of notable successes (still small, but fairly scalable) too. The recent pipeline and successes so far could enable a new era of growth for Marico if all goes according to plan.
- The problems for VAHO seem to be temporary. Of late, performance of the youth portfolio has been encouraging and international business also seems to be back on the growth path. It is only *Saffola* where growth may be a concern in the near-term (possibly with recovery taking a longer period than management's expectations of a revival in 1HFY20).
  - Valuation & View: Its stock price has been flattish for about over 2 years before our upgrade post 2QFY19 results, after which the stock rallied 17%. We still believe there is further room for stock price appreciation, both from a near-term as well as medium-term perspective. Three factors reinforce our confidence in Marico's earnings prospects; these include (a) likely benign raw material environment over the next 18-24 months (Copra accounts for 40-50% of material costs and is in a deflationary period), (b) strong performance of Parachute volumes in recent quarters and healthy growth prospects in the VAHO segment, and (c) good traction being witnessed in new product development. Crucially, at a time when both sector multiples, as well as ability of peers to pass on emerging material cost pressures are under question, Marico provides far higher visibility compared to peers. Moreover, with over 30% sales coming from rural (management is targeting 40%), and particularly with its technological edge over peers, Marico is emerging as an interesting play on rural growth. Targeting 46x December 2020 EPS (10% premium to 3year average), we get a target price of INR465, 25% upside to the CMP. From a medium-term perspective, particularly if the targeted 7-8% sales come from new products, we believe Marico is one of the few companies, which can give 60-70% returns over the next 2-3 years. Maintain **Buy**.

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Exhibit 1: Pace of new launches accelerated significantly over the past 18 months

Year	Quarter	Product	Category
FY14 —	3QFY14 Livon conditioning cream color		Hair color
FY14 -	4QFY14	Set Wet Infinity	Deodorant
FY15 —	3QFY15	Livon Moroccan Silk Serum	Hair serum
F112 —	4QFY15	Parachute Aromatherapy	
	2QFY16	Livon Hair Gain for women	Hair tonic
FY16 3QFY16		Nihar Naturals Sarson Kesh Tel	Value added mustard oil
	4QFY16	Parachute Advansed Ayurvedic Gold Hair oil	Hair fall control oil
	3QFY17	Parachute Advansed Aloe Vera Hair oil	Aloe Vera Hair oil
FY17	40EV17	Saffola Aura	Super premium edible olive & flaxseed oil
	4QFY17	Saffola Multigrain Flakes	Breakfast cereal
		Parachute Advansed Men classic cream	Hair cream
		Parachute Advansed Men anti-dandruff cream	Hair cream
	1QFY18	Parachute Advansed Men anti-hairfall cream	Hair cream
		Parachute Advansed Men hair oil	Hair oil
FY18		Hair & Care Fruit Oils	Fruit based hair oils
	2QFY18	Saffola Slimming Nutrik-Shake	Neutraceutical
	3QFY18	Saffola Active Soups	Soups
	3QF116	Set Wet Hair waxes	Wax
	4QFY18	Set Wet Blast	Pocket deodorant spray
		Nihar Naturals Shanti jasmine Coconut hair oil	Coconut hair oil
		Parachute Advansed crème oil Pre Wash Hair Nourisher	Hair shampoo
	1QFY19	Parachute Advansed Coconut crème shampoo	
	10/119	Parachute Advansed crème serum	Hair serum
FY19	FY19	Livon Hair Gain Shampoo	Shampoo
		Set Wet Studio X range	Male grooming range
		Nihar Naturals Extra Care Hair Fall Control oil	Hair fall shampoo
	2QFY19	True roots	Hair tonic
		Virgin coconut oil	Hair tonic

Source: Company, MOSL

- New products according to the company's classification are:
  - a) Brand extensions of existing categories- three years
  - b) In case of entry into a new category altogether (e.g. oats where the company did not have a presence earlier, or *Parachute Advansed Coconut Crème Oil* and *True Roots* more recently) five years

Exhibit 2: Parachute Advansed Coconut Crème Oil range launched in 1QFY19



Source: Company, MOSL

- SKUs are not considered as new products. Similarly, variants of products past the NPD stage are not considered as new products.
- Both in terms of pipeline and in terms of success of these products, Marico had a fairly disappointing tenure between FY13-17.

### What has the company done?

- Subsequently, around two years ago Marico took the following measures:
  - a) Innovation council: It set up a full-fledged innovation council, with the managing director as its head. It also comprises functional heads. This council enables a structured review and scrutiny of all new products in each of the five stages that each new product goes through, also called the five gate process:
    - 1) Pre-ideation and Ideation
    - 2) Feasibility
    - 3) Capability
    - 4) Prototyping
    - 5) National scale-up

Introduction of new variants of existing products, however, are not required to go through the Innovation Council and are rolled out faster.

Exhibit 3: Marico's five gate process for new launches



Source: Company, MOSL

- b) **Category Focus**: NPD efforts will be focused on premiumization of Hair Nourishment, Healthy Foods and Male Grooming.
- c) Introduction through prototyping: All products are now launched through the prototyping route. The prototyping could be region specific or channel specific depending on the product or brand mix. For e.g., Nihar Extra Care Hairfall Control was launched in East India. The new, super-premium True Roots (9x the price of Parachute) was prototyped only on Flipkart.

Exhibit 4: Nihar Naturals ExtraCare is currently being prototyped in East India



Exhibit 5: Marico entered the anti-graying segment with its super premium botanical hair tonic True roots



Source: Company, MOSL Source: Company, MOSL

d) **Defining criteria for success:** The criteria for success are set with respect to turnover, reach, market- share and threshold profitability in 3-5 years. In case a new product does not meet profitability targets in the initial phase,

- the company still continues to invest in it as long as there is a path to attain the desired level of profitability within a defined time frame as the product scales up (internally dubbed as P2P or "Path to Profitability").
- e) **Bias towards potential for scale:** In case of a trade-off between EBITDA profitability in 3-5 years and potential to scale up the new product significantly with slightly delayed profitability, the bias will be towards scale.
- f) **Defining KRAs for performance management:** It has defined multi-year KRAs for the NPD task force, with a built-in safety net, encouraging a long-term mindset and building a culture that accepts failure and takes measured risks. Company believes this increases the probability of success.
- g) **Getting the mix right:** The R&D team works on getting the mix right in terms of new product development and is thus, focused on both big ticket ideas as well as extensions.
- h) **Planned Increased salience of new products:** New products comprise 3-4% of sales and the company is targeting to increase it to 7-8% in 3-4 years.
- i) Raising share of advertising spends in NPD: Management is ensuring not just a healthy product pipeline, but is also getting the market ready by sufficient advertising. A&P on new products has increased to ~25% of total A&P currently from around 15% of total A&P 3-4 years ago.

Ad spends (INR b) **─**O Ad spends % of sales 13.0 12.0 11.7 11.5 10.7 11.3 11.3 11.0 10.6 9.3 0 -0 0 0 O 4 6 6 6 7 7 6 8 10 11 FY12 FY13 FY14 FY15 FY16 FY17 FY18 FY19E FY20E FY21E

Exhibit 6: We forecast ad spends to be 11.7% of sales by FY21

Source: Company, MOSL

j) Reducing lead time: The lead time from ideation to prototyping has definitely gone down in recent years for variants, but this reduction in case of new categories is a work in progress.

### About the R&D team

- The R&D team (constituted by 100-odd members) is headed by Dr. Sudhakar Mhaskar (Chief Technology Officer), who has been with the company for more than 14 years. His prior experience was with Hindustan Unilever.
- The R&D team is a mix of home-grown talent and lateral hires from best-in-class companies.
- Separate R&D teams are involved in Personal Care, Hair Oils and Foods; and work in close association with cross-functional counterparts in those segments.
- Customer testing is mostly done off-premises.
- Recent successes have been *Parachute Advansed Ayurvedic* Hair Oil, which was launched in South India (now has a market share of ~30% in the South in the

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> Anti-Hairfall category) and the Parachute Advansed Aloe Vera Enriched Coconut Hair Oil (introduced in Maharashtra in 2015, then extended to Southern states and now will be taken national).

Exhibit 7: Parachute Advansed Ayurvedic hair oil launched in Exhibit 8: Parachute Advansed Aloe Vera Enriched Coconut South India has a current market share of 30%

hair oil to see a national launch





Source: Company, MOSL

Source: Company, MOSL

### Disappointments, lessons learnt and cost optimization focus

- Aura, its olive oil product was a disappointment. The company erred in underestimating the Modern Trade (MT) dependence and the huge incentivization costs (given to MT players) borne by all players in the category, which left lower scope to build brand salience through quality and differentiation.
- Cost optimization is not the mandate of the R&D team. Marico has a separate 'MarVal' (Marico Value Enhancement) team that explores the potential for cost savings across all functions and processes, including new and existing products.

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# Story in charts

**Exhibit 9: Domestic volume growth to recover going forward** 

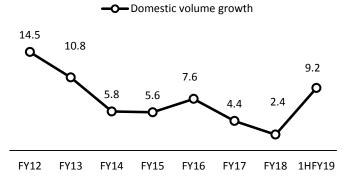
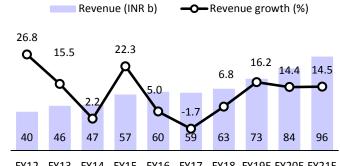


Exhibit 10: Revenue to see a CAGR of 15% over FY18-21E



FY12 FY13 FY14 FY15 FY16 FY17 FY18 FY19E FY20E FY21E

Source: Company, MOSL

Exhibit 11: Gross margin to expand 390bp over FY18-21E

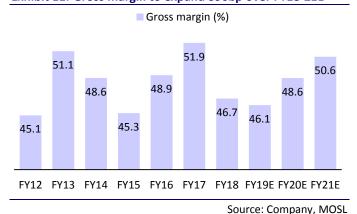
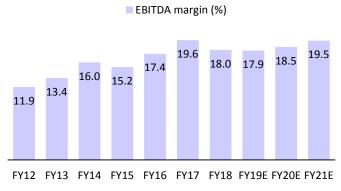
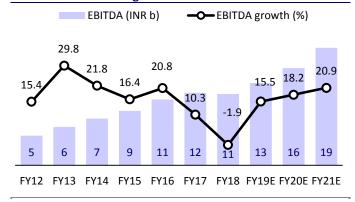


Exhibit 12: EBITDA margin expansion of 150bp is expected over FY18-21E



Source: Company, MOSL

Exhibit 13: EBITDA to grow at a CAGR of 18% over FY18-21E



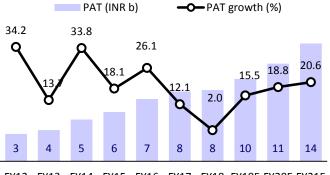


Exhibit 14: Adj. PAT to see a similar CAGR of 18% over

the same period

FY12 FY13 FY14 FY15 FY16 FY17 FY18 FY19E FY20E FY21E

Source: Company, MOSL

Source: Company, MOSL

Source: Company, MOSL

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Income Statement							(INR	(Million
Y/E March	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021
Net Sales	46,865	57,330	60,173	59,178	63,222	73,482	84,036	96,23
Change (%)	2.2	22.3	5.0	-1.7	6.8	16.2	14.4	14.
COGS	24,088	31,356	30,887	28,472	33,719	39,643	43,210	47,550
Gross Profit	22,778	25,974	29,286	30,706	29,503	33,839	40,826	48,680
Margin (%)	48.6	45.3	48.7	51.9	46.7	46.1	48.6	50.0
Operating Expenses	15,301	17,274	18,773	19,113	18,125	20,702	25,300	29,90
EBITDA	7,477	8,701	10,514	11,593	11,378	13,137	15,526	18,77
Change (%)	21.8	16.4	20.8	10.3	-1.9	15.5	18.2	20.9
Margin (%)	16.0	15.2	17.5	19.6	18.0	17.9	18.5	19.5
Depreciation	769	843	949	903	891	899	903	1,009
Int. and Fin. Charges	345	230	206	166	162	184	194	21
Other Income - Recurring	582	589	933	973	846	862	910	95
Profit before Taxes	6,946	8,217	10,292	11,497	11,172	12,915	15,339	18,50
Change (%)	31.9	18.2	27.2	11.7	-2.8	15.6	18.8	20.6
Margin (%)	14.8	14.3	17.1	19.4	17.7	17.6	18.3	19.2
Current Tax (excl MAT Ent)	1,793	2,383	2,503	2,922	2,841	3,293	3,911	4,719
Deferred Tax	112	-15	551	455	55	65	77	93
Tax Rate (%)	27.4	28.8	29.7	29.4	25.9	26.0	26.0	26.0
Minority Interest	-187	-114	-5	-10	-1	-1	-1	-1
Profit after Taxes	4,854	5,735	7,233	8,110	8,275	9,556	11,350	13,693
Change (%)	33.8	18.1	26.1	12.1	2.0	15.5	18.8	20.6
Margin (%)	10.4	10.0	12.0	13.7	13.1	13.0	13.5	14.2
Reported PAT	4,854	5,735	7,228	8,110	8,275	9,556	11,350	13,693
•	•	<u>,                                      </u>	,	,		,	,	
<b>Balance Sheet</b>							(INR	Million
Y/E March	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021
Share Capital	1,290	1,290	1,290	1,291	1,291	1,291	1,291	1,291
Reserves	12,317	16,958	18,884	21,966	24,138	27,890	30,401	31,257
Net Worth	13,606	18,248	20,174	23,257	25,429	29,181	31,692	32,548
Minority Interest	358	137	143	133	125	125	125	125
Loans	6,798	4,279	3,313	2,388	3,127	3,577	4,027	4,47
Capital Employed	20,762	22,664	23,630	25,778	28,681	32,883	35,844	37,150
Gross Fixed Assets	8,614	8,807	6,119	7,440	8,119	9,369	10,619	11,869
Intangibles	1,020	1,034	328	361	716	605	605	60!
Less: Accum. Depn.	-3,301	-3,973	-917	-1,749	-2,589	-3,489	-4,391	-5,40
Net Fixed Assets	6,333	5,868	5,531	6,053	6,245	6,485	6,833	7,07
Capital WIP	44	30	367	112	268	268	268	26
Goodwill	2,543	4,892	4,974	4,795	4,858	4,858	4,858	4,85
Investments	3,105	2,838	5,439	6,082	5,428	6,242	6,866	7,553
Curr. Assets, L&A	17,624	17,625	16,852	19,191	23,923	28,536	32,744	34,81

Curr. Assets, L&A 17,624 16,852 17,625 19,191 23,923 28,536 32,744 34,812 Inventory 7,962 9,947 9,256 12,534 15,109 19,247 16,113 18,488 **Account Receivables** 6,303 7,218 2,232 1,768 2,521 2,470 3,406 5,493 Cash and Bank Balance 4,064 2,049 3,171 2,360 2,001 2,841 3,047 2,950 Others 3,861 4,089 4,907 5,397 3,366 1,904 1,828 3,407 Curr. Liab. and Prov. 8,791 8,511 9,953 10,329 11,840 13,282 15,467 17,107 **Current Liabilities** 7,934 7,471 8,395 9,040 10,517 11,899 13,900 15,443 **Accounts Payable** 5,025 5,643 6,690 6,966 8,217 9,413 11,217 12,547 **Provisions** 857 1,040 1,558 1,289 1,323 1,383 1,567 1,664 **Net Current Assets** 8,833 9,115 6,899 8,862 12,083 15,253 17,277 17,705 -96 -79 421 -125 -202 -258 -308 **Deferred Tax Liability** -224 37,150 **Application of Funds** 20,762 22,664 23,630 25,778 28,681 32,883 35,845

E: MOSL Estimates

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# **Financials and Valuations**

Ratios								
Y/E March	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E
Basic (INR)								
EPS	3.8	4.4	5.6	6.3	6.4	7.4	8.8	10.6
Cash EPS	4.3	5.0	6.3	6.8	7.1	8.1	9.5	11.4
BV/Share	10.5	14.1	15.6	18.0	19.7	22.6	24.6	25.2
DPS	2.0	1.2	3.5	4.3	5.0	6.5	8.5	8.5
Payout %	53.1	28.1	62.4	67.6	78.6	87.8	96.7	80.1
Valuation (x)								
P/E	99.1	83.9	66.5	59.4	58.2	50.4	42.4	35.2
Cash P/E	87.2	74.6	58.8	54.5	52.5	46.1	39.3	32.8
EV/Sales	10.3	8.4	7.9	8.0	7.5	6.5	5.7	4.9
EV/EBITDA	64.3	55.2	45.3	41.0	41.9	36.2	30.6	25.3
P/BV	35.4	26.4	23.9	20.7	18.9	16.5	15.2	14.8
Dividend Yield (%)	0.5	0.3	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.7	2.3	2.3
Return Ratios (%)								
RoE	29.0	36.0	37.7	37.3	34.0	35.0	37.3	42.6
RoCE	21.3	27.7	31.9	33.3	30.8	31.5	33.4	38.0
RoIC	26.5	35.7	41.5	47.4	40.7	40.7	44.0	50.5
Leverage Ratio								
Debt/Equity (x)	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Cash Flow Statement							(II)	IR Million)
Y/E March	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E
OP/(loss) before Tax	6,946	8,217	10,287	11,487	11,170	12,915	15,339	18,506
Int./Div. Received	-147	-185	-594	-43	-327	-862	-910	-957
Depreciation	769	843	949	903	891	899	903	1,009
Interest Paid	-30	39	206	-197	-174	184	194	217
Direct Taxes Paid	-1,811	-2,097	-2,474	-2,964	-2,949	-3,293	-3,911	-4,719
(Incr)/Decr in WC	878	-169	-197	-2,698	-3,065	-2,330	-1,818	-525
CF from Operations	6,605	6,648	8,176	6,487	5,545	7,514	9,796	13,531
(Incr)/Decr in FA	-723	-581	-864	-815	-1,231	-1,139	-1,250	-1,250
Free Cash Flow	5,882	6,068	7,312	5,673	4,314	6,374	8,546	12,281
(Pur)/Sale of Investments	-1,972	410	-1,180	15	697	-814	-624	-687
Others	879	-2,238	1,000	-760	305	1,717	1,001	69
CF from Invest.	-1,815	-2,408	-1,044	-1,560	-229	-237	-873	-1,868
Issue of Shares	0	6	5	0	0	0	0	0
(Incr)/Decr in Debt	-500	-437	0	0	0	450	450	450
Dividend Paid	-1,420	-3,001	-5,023	-5,088	-6,357	-7,548	-9,817	-12,838
Others	-1,473	-2,824	-992	-652	682	660	651	628
CF from Fin. Activity	-3,393	-6,255	-6,010	-5,740	-5,675	-6,437	-8,717	-11,760
Incr/Decr of Cash	1,397	-2,015	1,122	-812	-358	840	206	-97
Add: Opening Balance	2,668	4,064	2,049	3,171	2,360	2,001	2,841	3,047
Closing Balance	4,064	2,049	3,171	2,360	2,001	2,841	3,047	2,950

E: MOSL Estimates

Explanation of Investment Rating				
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)			
BUY	>=15%			
SELL	< - 10%			
NEUTRAL	< - 10 % to 15%			
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change			
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation			

\*In case the recommendation given by the Research Analyst becomes inconsistent with the investment rating legend, the Research Analyst shall within 28 days of the inconsistency, take appropriate measures to make the recommendation consistent with the investment rating legend.

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